

STARS AND STRIPES®

**Berry accepts
Razzie as
worst actress**

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Actress
Halle Berry

**'Art' on display:
Pro wrestlers
perform at Yokota**

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**Pope quietly
appears at
hospital window**

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Pope John Paul II

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TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2005

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Misawa fires make case for renter's insurance on base

Residents in 11 of 12 blazes in 2004 had no coverage Page 3



Skiing down the road to health

Page 7

Marine Cpl. Casey Owens, of Houston, cruises down the slope Friday during a sit-ski lesson on Vail Mountain in Vail, Colo. Owens lost both of his legs in a land mine incident in Iraq in September 2004. The second annual Vail Veterans Ski Weekend provided the opportunity for 18 U.S. servicemembers who are recent amputees to spend two days on the slopes learning to ski and snowboard through Vail's Adaptive Ski Program.

AP

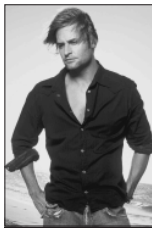


**Webber misses
shot at giving 76ers
win over Kings**

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Schwarzenegger's political future:

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger may have joked about becoming president, but he said in an interview broadcast Sunday that he's never seriously considered it.

The Austrian-born Schwarzenegger said he is not the reason behind talk of amending the Constitution so immigrants can occupy the White House.

"I don't think the idea is that all the push is because of me. I mean, I have never thought about running for president, and this is not my vision," Schwarzenegger said on "This Week with George Stephanopoulos."

World

Syria withdrawal from Lebanon: A visiting senior U.S. State Department official on Sunday brushed off accusations that Washington's calls for Syria to leave Lebanon as soon as possible amounted to interference in Lebanese internal affairs.

David Satterfield, a U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, was scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Mahmoud Hammoud on Monday to convey the U.S. demand for a full and immediate withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon and the need for a thorough inquiry into the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Bird flu epidemic: Vietnamese officials confirmed on Sunday that a 69-year-old man has died from bird flu, the 14th person to die from the disease this year.

The man, from northern Thai Binh province, was admitted to the provincial hospital on Feb. 19 with classic bird flu symptoms, said Pham Van Dieu, director of Thai Binh Provincial Preventive Medicine Center.

Rebels, military clash in Indonesia: Suspected rebels killed an Indonesian soldier and wounded another in the first clash since both sides concluded a second round of peace talks aimed at ending a three-decade insurrection in tsunami-hit Aceh province, the military said Sunday.

The fighting late Saturday occurred in Krueang Sri district, just east of the provincial capital of Banda Aceh, on Sumatra island's northern tip, military spokesman Lt. Col. Ediana Sulistiadi said.

Swiss army leaves Indonesia: The Swiss army flew its final relief missions in Indonesia's tsunami-battered Aceh province on Sunday as its soldiers prepared to leave the



WTC memorial: A fragment of the original granite fountain 1993 World Trade Center bombing memorial rests in a case as friends and family of the victims of the bombing gather for a memorial service Saturday at St. Peter's Church in New York on the 12th anniversary of the terrorist attack. The granite fountain memorial was destroyed during the Sept. 11, 2001, World Trade Center attack. The fragment, which was found during the rescue and recovery operation, was installed Saturday as the central piece to a new memorial.

region, becoming the latest foreign military to withdraw and hand over its work to civilian agencies.

Three Swiss army choppers have been dropping off tents, blankets and medicines to survivors on Aceh's west coast since they arrived in the province six weeks ago.

Fifty Swiss soldiers deployed to the region were set to leave Sunday, according to a statement from the Swiss Embassy.

Anglican church dispute: Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams suggested Sunday that the North American churches that have elected a gay bishop and blessed same-sex relationships might have to back down if the worldwide Anglican communion is to hold together.

Anglican leaders meeting near Belfast asked the U.S. Episcopal Church and the An-

glican Church of Canada to withdraw from the Anglican Consultative Council for three years — a move some fear could be the first step toward a permanent split.

WTO protest planned: About 5,000 activists are planning to stage a protest ahead of the World Trade Organization meeting to be held in December in Hong Kong, organizers said Sunday.

About 250 activists from around the world agreed at a two-day meeting that ended here Sunday to hold a protest Dec. 10, said Apo Leong, a meeting organizer. The WTO meeting is scheduled for Dec. 13-18.

The Hong Kong WTO meeting is aimed at reducing tariffs and subsidies, and forging a trade treaty that would take effect in 2006 or early 2007.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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Fallon takes PACOM reins from Fargo

Stars and Stripes

Adm. William J. Fallon assumed command of the U.S. Pacific Command from Adm. Thomas B. Fargo during a ceremony Saturday, according to a PACOM news release.

"I intend to put a premium on good strong relationships between people," Fallon said, according to ceremony transcripts, "and to work hard to establish and to nurture the personal links essential to a climate of trust and confidence between leaders and nations in this region."

"I ask for your help in learning the many things that I must learn and I invite your counsel and advice."

Fallon, now the senior U.S. military commander in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, leads the largest of the unified commands and directs Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force operations across more than 100 million square miles, according to the re-

lease. His last assignment was commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

"I pledge to you dedication to the task of enhancing stability and to setting conditions for a security environment in this region and throughout the world, in which people can truly live in peace and confidence," he said.

Fallon also thanked those involved in the ceremony.

"I'd like to join Tom in offering my kudos to the band, the color guard, the many folks who are here in uniform and the many others who are not here who have labored long and hard behind the scenes to put this event together and to make it the glorious day that it is," he said. "So thank you very much."

Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, officiated at the ceremony. "It's because of the efforts of the men and women of the U.S. Pacific Command that today, millions of people in the Middle East and around the world now have a choice," Myers stated in the release. "In the Global War on Terrorism, PACOM has met and conquered great challenges across great distances."

Myers presented the U.S. Pacific



DENNIS C. CANTRELL/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Gen. Richard B. Myers, left, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Adm. William J. Fallon, center; and Adm. Thomas B. Fargo salute during a change of command ceremony in Hawaii on Saturday. Fallon assumed leadership of the Pacific Command from Fargo.

ic Command with the Joint Meritorious Unit Award during the ceremony.

According to the release, since Fargo took command on May 2, 2002, PACOM "was involved with numerous operations, ranging from combating terrorism in the Philippines to, most recently, leading relief efforts from the December 26, 2004 tsunami in Operation Unified Assistance."

Fargo is retiring after 35 years in the Navy.

Fallon is a graduate of the Naval War College, Newport, R.I. and the National War College in Washington, D.C., and he has a master of arts degree in international studies from Old Dominion University. He has earned the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze



COOPER I. EVANS
Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Sailors perform a flag ceremony during the PACOM change of command ceremony Saturday.

Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and various unit and campaign decorations.

Renter's insurance could avert dealing with a costly crisis

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — It was a jolt Staff Sgt. Roderick Parker never expected: One January day, "I was in the middle of going to a meeting when I got a phone call: You need to go home; your house is on fire."

The conventional maintenance crew chief with 35th Maintenance Group said his son, 18, left something in the toaster, which was connected to the microwave via electrical wiring. The microwave may have exploded, Parker said when his son returned to an empty house after a 20-minute library trip, the smoke was so thick he couldn't get in the door, he called 911.

No one was injured, but Parker learned a costly lesson: Even military housing residents need renter's insurance.

Through recent on-base publicity, Misawa leaders are stressing that need after 12 fires in base housing in 2004. In 11, residents had no renter's insurance, said Col. Tom Yanni, 35th Mission Support Group commander.

Without coverage, occupants are liable for damage to the structure and any other government property unless the fire was caused by an electrical or mechanical problem in the building, base officials said.

The fire at Parker's home remains under investigation, but officials estimate government property damage at more than \$83,000. Base firefighters contained the flames but smoke damage pervaded the house, Parker said. "Everything we owned was covered in... soot."

He doesn't know yet whether he'll owe the Air Force, but it's unlikely he'll be faced with a six-figure bill. Military housing occupants need repay the entire debt only in cases of gross negligence, Yanni said.

"That's something pretty egregious, like washing lawnmower parts in gasoline in your quarters. Most cases we see are simple negligence, such as unattended cooking. For that, an occupant is liable for up to a month's salary, generally paid over 12 months at a minimum of \$50 per paycheck."

Renter's insurance is advised for all base housing occupants, dorm dwellers and off-base housing residents, who often borrow furniture and major appliances from the base Furniture Management Office.



Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

A recent fire in military housing at Misawa Air Base, Japan, destroyed a kitchen and caused thousands of dollars in damage to government property. Base leaders at Misawa advise servicemembers to purchase renter's insurance.

Those making a permanent-change-of-station move to Misawa are briefed on the importance of buying such insurance, but it is optional. "That question keeps coming up: Is there any way we can require it?" said Donna Marchak, assistant housing manager. Even Pacific Air Forces has asked, she said, "because of the growing costs of fires."

Marchak said renters insurance also can be extended to cover personal property losses. One insurer in Misawa also offers coverage for damage from lightning, theft, flood, wind, hail, snow, water (such as burst pipes), falling objects, even a riot or strike. Coverage for a fire following an earthquake, volcanic eruption or tidal wave costs extra.

The type and amount of coverage determines the price, but at Misawa most packages cost less than \$100 a year, officials said. Yanni, who pays \$48 per year for his renter's insurance, noted that most U.S.-bought insurance policies probably don't cover all liability in Japan, so buying coverage locally is wise.

Parker said he and his family lost up to \$5,000 in household goods from smoke damage.

Since the fire, his squadron and base organizations have helped with everything from kitchen utensils to meal coupons. "It was pretty moving to find you have that kind of support," he said. The base even found Parker a house on the same street the day after the fire.

"His first order of business upon moving in: Renter's insurance. 'It cost me \$65 for the whole year,'" he said.

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New standards force Army, Navy to hire more pharmacists

BY TOM PHILPOTT
Special to Stars and Stripes

The Air Force and Navy likely will have to hire a few hundred more pharmacists over the next 18 months to meet tougher standards being imposed on the role of pharmacy technicians.

Even the Army, which for years has kept a higher ratio of pharmacists to pharmacy technicians than the other medical services, could be required to boost its number of pharmacists by an August 2006 deadline.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations formally notified the military surgeons general last month of a change in standards for accredited military hospital and clinics to meet regarding handling and dispensing of medications.

JCAHO no longer will exempt the military from a requirement that a pharmacist review all prescriptions and hospital medication orders before drugs are dispensed.

The exemption recognized that military pharmacy techs receive more comprehensive training than private sector counterparts, said Joseph L. Cappiello, the commission's vice president for field operations.

But standards on patient safety have evolved to where allowing technicians alone to fill prescriptions — by having military techs check other techs — no longer will be acceptable if hospitals and clinics are to stay accredited.

The change takes effect March 1 but the services have 18 months to hire the extra pharmacists they need or, in some cases, to buy telemedicine technology for pharmacists to supervise dispensing of drugs at remote sites.

Apache crash near DMZ kills pilot

The Associated Press

SEOUL — A U.S. Army pilot was killed and another seriously injured Saturday when their Apache helicopter crashed on a training mission.

The \$30 million helicopter, belonging to the 2nd U.S. Infantry Division, went down near Paju, a South Korean town close to the border with communist North Korea, said Kim Yong-kyu, a spokesman at the U.S. military command in Seoul. The accident took place just before noon, Kim said.

U.S. military authorities were investigating the cause of the crash, and the identities of the two pilots were being withheld until their next of kin were informed.

Apache helicopters, known as "tank killers," have been used extensively in Iraq and Afghanistan in support of the war on terrorism.

According to the U.S. Army Safety Center's Web site, eight Apaches have been involved in Class A aviation accidents since Jan. 1, 2004, with five fatalities. Since Jan. 1, 2001, 31 Apaches have suffered Class A accidents involving 12 fatalities.

Class A accidents are those that result in at least \$1 million worth of damage to an aircraft or that involve fatalities. The figures do not include Saturday's crash near the DMZ. It was not known by press time that that Apache was part of the 2nd ID's 2nd Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment at Camp Eagle, which is slated to close in March and relocate to Camp Eagle.

About 33,000 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea, which shares the world's most heavily militarized border with North Korea.

Apache AH-64

- Multimission attack helicopter, operating day and night
- Missiles: Anti-tank, anti-radar, air-to-air
- Missions: Combat (anti-armor), covering force, close-support (anti-armor), ground-support (air mobile escort)

Source: Federation of American Scientists

KRT

Wrestlers pump up Yokota

By T.D. FLACK

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Senior Airman Timothy Keel was in his glory Saturday night, impressed that the fine arts finally had made it to Yokota.

Granted, Saturday's performance included a blood-spattered ring, 280-pound men leaping through the air to smash each other with vicious kicks and elbows and an audience that reveled in talking trash to the performers from the safety of the stands.

"This is like watching the theater," Keel said during an intermission of the International Championship Wrestling matches at Yokota's Taiyo Recreation Center. "This is the greatest entertainment... an art form."

It was a typical night of professional wrestling, with good body-slammings and "bad guys" taunted fans, playing particularly on U.S. patriotism and service pride.

"They say the Marines are looking for a few good men," Disco Inferno told the crowd. "I guess the rest of you joined the Air Force."

His insults were met with a chorus of "Disco sucks!" shouts from the crowd.

A tag-team pair of Canadian brothers, Shane and Shannon, blasted the Americans in the crowd, saying they were upset that the Canadian national anthem wasn't played.

"Look at a map," one shouted over the boos. "Canada's up here and the U.S. is down here. You'll always be below us."

But when "good guy" Virgil entered the ring to wrestle "Dink the Clown," he grabbed the microphone and sent out his own message to "thank the Air Force, all the great women and all the great men."

Saturday's show, provided by the 374th Services Division, was part of a whirlwind Yokota tour. The wrestlers signed autographs and ate lunch with residents, talked to American Forces Network's "Traffic Jams" afternoon radio program and held a second performance Sunday afternoon.

Airman 1st Class Russell Granby, 20, led the rowdies of fans in heckling the wrestlers.

"Trash talking is just something you have to do," said Granby, at his first pro-wrestling show. "It's awesome."

E-mail T.D. Flack at: flacktd@strips.com

Guam commands combined

By JENNIFER H. SVAN

Stars and Stripes

U.S. Naval Base Guam is combining engineering, construction and public works services under one command, to be called Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas, Navy officials announced Thursday.

Those services previously fell under two separate commands: Navy Public Works Center, Guam, and the Office in Charge of Construction Marianas, said Petty Officer 2nd Class Benjamin Keller, U.S. Naval Base Guam spokesman.

Keller said the Navy facilities command in Hawaii directed the move to streamline services.

"They were two separate departments with the same commanding officer," he said. "Now they'll fall under the same command and the same commanding officer."

A ceremony to officially establish the new, single one-stop entity for the combined services was held Friday. A new sign was to go up outside the building marking the change. No jobs or services were to be lost in the transition, Navy officials said.

Capt. David M. Boone will become commanding officer of the new NAVFAC Marianas command. Boone now is the commanding officer of Public Works Center Guam and officer in charge of Construction Marianas and the Regional Engineer for Navy Region Marianas.

NAVFAC Marianas will comprise almost 130 professional engineers, information technology specialists, architects, environmental specialists and acquisition professionals providing round-the-clock facility support services to the Navy, Air Force, and other federal agencies, according to the Navy.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svanj@strips.com

B-2 bombers headed to Guam

U.S. Air Force B-2 Spirit bombers left Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Friday en route to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, as part of an Air Expeditionary Force deployment, according to a Pacific Air Force news release.

The release did not specify the number of B-2s deploying to Guam. The AEF deployments to Guam began in February 2004.

According to the release, the B-2s provide the U.S. Pacific Command "a continuous bomber presence in the Asia-Pacific region, enhancing regional security and the U.S. commitment to the Western Pacific."

The rotation also "provides training opportunities to integrate bombers into Pacific Command's joint and coalition exercises from a forward operating base," according to the release.

From staff reports



Petty Officer 3rd Class Dean Mentzel paints the community center in Agat, Guam, during a cleanup project Saturday. One hundred sailors volunteered to pick up trash, cut overgrowth and paint the village's community center. So many volunteers turned out to help, the work was completed two hours ahead of schedule. Public Affairs Officer Lt. Arwen Connsal said.

FRANK WHITMAN
Special to
Stars and Stripes

100 sailors pitch in on cleanup project

By FRANK WHITMAN

Special to Stars and Stripes

AGAT, Guam — As part of the 35-year-old Sister Village program in Guam, 100 sailors spent Saturday morning picking up roadside trash, cutting grass and painting in the village of Agat.

Faced with a village beautification project larger than her small staff could handle, Agat mayor Carol Tayanay contacted a representative of the village's sister squadron — Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas — to ask for help.

Public Affairs Officer Lt. Arwen Connsal, in turn, solicited volunteers and said she was overwhelmed with the response. "We thought this would take about five hours," Connsal said. "But with so many volunteers, most of the work was finished by 9:00," three hours after the cleanup began.

Seventy of the workers were members of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 7, which is in the fourth month of a six-month deployment to Guam from Gulfport, Miss. Twenty members of the Naval Base Guam Security Force also helped, as did about 10 members of various other units. With Agat being next to Naval Base Guam and the Seabees' Camp Covington, both the Navy

and Seabees have helped the village before. For instance, this marked the second time during NMCB 7's current deployment that its members helped clean up Agat.

The volunteers picked up trash and cut back overgrowth along the four-mile stretch of Route 2, the main road that runs the length of the village and continues around the island. They also painted the village community center, which includes the mayor's office. After the cleanup, in keeping with Guam tradition, the mayor hosted a barbecue for the Navy volunteers and villagers at Nimnit beach, a public beach in the village.

Despite six-day work weeks, NMCB 7 members said they were happy to spend Saturday helping the community. "Anybody can be a tourist," said Petty Officer 1st Class Misty McLeod. "But it's a privilege and a blessing to come here and do something and be a part of the community. The ocean and the beaches are great but this is another side that's just as beautiful."

Such projects are standard during unit deployments, said Petty Officer 1st Class Christopher Bryan. In addition to being a great way to learn about and be involved with the populace, "we always try to do something for the community," he said. "After all, they put up with us for six months."

Syria captures Saddam's half brother, 29 others

In apparent goodwill gesture, suspected benefactor of anti-American insurgency is turned over to Iraq

BY PATRICK QUINN
The Associated Press

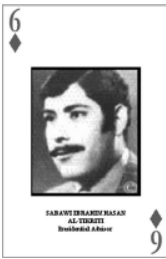
BAGHDAD — Iraqi officials said Sunday that Syrian authorities had captured Saddam Hussein's half brother and 29 other officials of the deposed dictator's Baath Party in Syria and handed them over to Iraq in an apparent goodwill gesture.

Some officials claim Sabawi Ibrahim al-Hassan was helping organize and fund the insurgency in Iraq from Syria.

Also Sunday, two U.S. soldiers were killed in an ambush in Baghdad, the U.S. military said.

Al-Hassan, a former Saddam adviser, was captured in Hasakah in northeastern Syria near the Iraqi border, two senior Iraqi officials said on condition of anonymity. They added that al-Hassan was captured and handed over to Iraqi authorities along with 29 other members of Saddam's collapsed Baath Party, whose Syrian branch has been in power in Damascus since 1963.

The Iraqi officials said only that al-Hassan was detained after the Feb. 14 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik



Sabawi Ibrahim al-Hassan, a half brother of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, shown in this DOD playing card, has been captured, Iraqi officials said Sunday.

Hariri in Beirut, Lebanon, in a blast that killed 16 others.

"The capture appeared to be a goodwill gesture by the Syrians to show that they are cooperating,"

one Iraqi official said.

A third Iraqi official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said Syrian security forces expelled al-Hassan from Syria into Iraq after he and his supporters had been turned back in an earlier attempt to cross the Syrian border into Lebanon and Jordan.

Al-Hassan was No. 36 on the list of 55 most-wanted Iraqis released by U.S. authorities after American troops invaded Iraq in March 2003, and he also was named one of the 29 most-wanted supporters of insurgents in Iraq.

Al-Hassan's arrest came during a period of increased U.S. and Iraqi military activity against insurgents, who continued their campaign of violence against coalition forces and those Iraqis they believe are helping them or sympathize with them.

Under Saddam, al-Hassan led the dreaded General Security Directorate, which was responsible for internal security, especially cracking down on political parties opposing Saddam. Al-Hassan was accused of torturing and killing political opponents while leading that body. He later became a presidential adviser, the last post he held in the former regime.

Iraqi authorities said Saturday they were close to capturing the country's most-wanted terrorist, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, al-Qaida's mastermind in Iraq believed to be behind much of the insurgent violence. A key al-Zarqawi aide and a man who served as his driver were arrested Feb. 20.

Associated Press reporters Sameer N. Yacoub and Todd Pittman in Baghdad, and Salim Nassari in Cairo, Egypt, contributed to this report.



Soldiers of the 31st Battalion of the Afghan National Army dance Sunday during their graduation ceremony at the Kabul Army Training Center. Afghanistan's army topped 20,000 with the graduation of 853 soldiers.

Afghanistan army surpasses 20,000

BY AMIR SHAH
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The number of troops in Afghanistan's new army topped 20,000 Sunday, as the United States steps up training of a force that is supposed to relieve Americans on the front lines against Taliban-led militants.

The 853 soldiers and officers of the 31st Battalion graduated Sunday morning in a joyful ceremony in the capital, Kabul. The Afghan National Army, or ANA, now numbers 20,694 and has another 3,000-4,000 soldiers in training.

"You young people must encourage others to follow you into the Afghan National Army," Gen. Abdullah, a senior Defense Ministry official who goes by one name, told the soldiers. "You are entrusted with the Afghan nation and must go like men to every corner of the country."

A new, multiethnic army is a key provision of international accords on rebuilding a strong Afghan government. The accords were signed in December 2001 after U.S. forces ousted the Taliban for harboring al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

On Sunday, the newest battalion marched for their commanders and trainers on a dusty parade ground in eastern Kabul.

France helps train the senior officers, Britain the noncommissioned officers and the United States the regular soldiers. Instructors from other countries, including Romania and Mongolia, train troops on their mainly Soviet-era tanks and artillery.

Several of the new soldiers said they had no fear of joining the battle against insurgents along the rugged Pakistan border.

The Afghan force is intended to replace armed factions tarnished by their role in Afghanistan's brutal civil wars and suspected of involvement in the country's heroin trade. More than 42,000 militiamen have been disbanded under a U.N. program.

The force also is expected to take a growing role in the battle against militants in the country's south and east, often in conjunction with the 17,000-strong U.S. force focused on remote provinces along the Pakistan border.

Recruitment to the new army was initially dogged by desertions and poor pay.

But conditions have improved, and U.S. officials say six battalions will train simultaneously starting next month, up from two at the start of last year, and the force is supposed to reach its full strength of 70,000 by the end of next year.

The U.S. military this month doubled the number of its soldiers embedded with the new army, extending the training effort into the field and letting ANA units call in U.S. airstrikes if they get into trouble.

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Monday		27 Feb Patch Club will be singing for the 6 pm service	
Faith Bible Institute	1830	5 Mar Mens Prayer Breakfast 8 am	
Tuesday		5 Mar Ladies Bible Study 2-4 pm	
Soul Winning & Visitation	1830	Theme: Celebrating all birthdays (volunteers available)	
Wednesday		April Revival meetings with Brother Chonday	
Evening Service & Prayer Mtg	1900		
Patch & Pee Wee Clubs	1900		

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Sunday School	Youth, Royal Rangers, and Missions.	
Worship Service		
Children's Church (English, Japanese)		
Youth Abuse Service		
Home Fellowship (1st & 3rd Sunday)	1:00 pm	
	6:00 pm	
Holy Grounds Café (2nd & 4th Sunday)	6:00 pm	

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End of WMD search?

Low-key talks focus
on halting U.N. probe
of weapons in Iraq

BY EDITH M. LEDERER
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — After blocking discussions for nearly two years, the United States has quietly started low-key talks on ending the work of U.N. inspectors who are charged with dismantling Iraq's chemical, biological and long-range missile programs.

The administration of President Bush has come under pressure from the Iraqi government, which has been waging a public campaign to stop using Iraqi oil revenue to finance the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission and wrap up its operations.

"This is a very important issue and one that we have been discussing for quite some time with the Iraqis and now with key members of the Security Council," Richard Grenell, spokesman for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, said Friday. "Those discussions continue."

American officials had said repeatedly that the United States disavowed the formalized future of the commission, known as UNMOVIC, until after the U.S. weapons search in Iraq was complete.

Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Fedotov said Thursday that after the Iraq Survey Group's report and the recent Iraqi elections it was time for the Security Council to discuss the future of U.N. inspections.

Fedotov, a member of UNMOVIC's board of commissioners, said that one issue the board discussed at a meeting this week was how these new developments "could have an impact on the process of what we call the final clarification of disarmament in Iraq."

"There is a broad feeling" that the Security Council should discuss these issues and that UNMOVIC and the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is responsible for dismantling any Iraqi nuclear programs, "should be involved in this process," he said.

"The mandate to UNMOVIC and IAEA was given by the Security Council, and the Security Council can make another decision, take an action in order to modify or to bring to an end this mandate," Fedotov said.

The council is expected to discuss UNMOVIC's next report in early March.

Proud papa



Sgt. Charles Hodges, left, holds his 2-week-old son, Ian, for the first time as his wife, Spc. Jenilee Hodges, looks on Saturday at the conclusion of a welcome home ceremony for the 120th Engineer Battalion Oklahoma Army National Guard in Okmulgee, Okla. Jenilee Hodges, who is in the same unit as her husband, returned from Iraq earlier than her husband to give birth to their son.

Unit that rejected fuel mission returns home

The Associated Press

ROCK HILL, S.C. — The Army Reserve company that drew attention when some of its soldiers refused a mission to transport fuel along a dangerous road in Iraq has returned home, with members honoring the officer who led the unit through the controversy.

The 343rd Quartermaster Company came back to the Rock Hill Memorial Army Reserve Center on Friday, and returning soldiers presented the unit's flag to the company commander, Capt. Victor Baez-an. He took charge after some members of the unit balked at the Oct. 13 mission, saying their vehicles were in poor condition and did not have armor.

"He pretty much came in and wiped the slate clean," Sgt. Anthony Amo said. "He put pride back into this unit. He made us all keep our heads up high, no matter what

people said about us. He made us proud to serve our country."

Twenty-three reservists refused to deliver supplies from Tallil air base near Nasiriyah to Taji north of Baghdad. The military has disciplined the soldiers by giving them extra duties or reducing rank.

"Everybody came out of this, and we came out of it together," Baez-an told the troops Friday. "Don't let Oct. 13 define you guys. You define yourself."

Forty-two of the 119 troops currently assigned to the 343rd arrived Friday from Fort Stewart, Ga. Four remained at Fort Stewart for medical treatment and others arrived earlier or returned to their homes in other states, said Maj. Bill Ritter, spokesman for the 81st Regional Readiness Command.

During its yearlong deployment, the unit delivered 2.5 million gallons of fuel, 1.3 million cases of water and 300,000 cases of rations, the Army said.

Iraqis denounce Saturday breaks

Some link day with Jewish Sabbath

BY MAGGIE MICHAEL
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqis are complaining about their first week-end break, and some high school students even went to class Saturday to protest a decision introducing a second week-end day that coincides with the Jewish Sabbath.

It's not that the Iraqis do not want time off — they just want the extra day moved to Thursday.

"We don't want Saturday! It's a Jewish holiday!" students chanted as they marched in protest last week to the governor's office in Baquba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

A high school student pulled out a hand grenade and started waving it, and police fired into the air to disperse the crowd. At least three students reportedly were injured in the ensuing scuffle.

At Baghdad's University of Mustansiriyah, a statement issued by a student union believed to be allied with the radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr described Saturday as "the Zionist holiday" and said the government order should not be followed.

"We declare a general strike in the University of Mustansiriyah to reject this decision and any decision aimed at depriving Iraqis of their identity," the statement said.

In predominantly Sunni Muslim Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, the al-Mutawakki high school opened its doors after insurgents threatened to kill its teachers if they took the day off.

There is no clear-cut rule for week-ends in the Middle East and other Muslim countries in the region.

In Lebanon, the weekend starts at 11:30 a.m. Friday and includes Sunday.

In Jordan, the weekend is Friday and Saturday. Bahrain, Egypt and Kuwait have Thursday and Friday off, while conservative Iran and Saudi Arabia only give Friday off.

In many Baghdad districts, including Shiite-dominated Sadr City, students and civil servants ignored the decree and went to school and work. At Sadr City's al-Fazilah secondary girls school, all 400 girls showed up for class.

"Sadr City is a Shiite Islamic city and we reject Saturday being our holiday because it is related to the Jewish weekend," said student union leader Safaa Dawoud Mahmoud, 18.

The student body delivered a letter to the school's administrators demanding that Thursday and Friday be the official weekend "because both days were blessed in Islam and by Sharia," or Islamic law.

The students, dressed in long skirts with their hair covered by dense black veils, vowed to stage sit-ins until the government reverses its decision and makes Thursday the first day of a two-day weekend.

"We will keep going to school with determination and persistence" on Saturday, sixth-grader Nassen Dawoud said.

"We can't be like Jews. Saturday is a Jewish holiday and I hope the government listens to us," sixth-grader Nada Alwan said.

The influential Sunni Association of Muslim Scholars, believed to be close to the insurgency, said that by making Saturday a weekend "the invaders, the occupiers are trying to impose their principles" on Iraq.

"This decision is dangerous," it said.



Some 400 children force their teachers and school administration to violate a new government order declaring Friday and Saturday the official weekend by turning up for classes at the Fazilah secondary school in the Sadr City area of Baghdad on Saturday.

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Troops who lost limbs in Iraq ski way to recovery

The Associated Press

VAIL, Colo. — Eighteen soldiers who lost limbs while serving in Iraq were learning to ski and snowboard Saturday in Colorado, part of an effort to speed their recovery with lessons in winter sports.

The soldiers arrived in this mountain resort town for the weekend after coming straight from Walter Reed Army Medical Hospital in Washington, D.C.

Among them was Marine Cpl. Christopher Fesmire, who lost both legs in Iraq when a mine exploded under his Humvee. With a smile and a gig-

arette between his lips, Fesmire shifted from a wheelchair to a mono-ski during his first lesson.

"A lot of people look at me now as a cripple. I resent that," said Fesmire, 27. "I'm limited, but that doesn't mean I can't do everything I want to do. A couple years from now, I'm going to be running around playing soccer, snowboarding, maybe surfing again. You aren't going to be able to tell I lost my legs."

For many veterans, "the trip to Vail is their first adventure outside of the hospital," said Cheryl Jensen, who organized the event. "This week-

end is all about providing an inspirational experience that focuses on abilities versus disabilities."

Ski instructor Sarah Will said there are ways to compensate for the loss of limbs. She should know: Will was paralyzed from the waist down in a ski accident in 1998.

"Sometimes, the double 'armpits' will run into a problem where they aren't getting enough forward pressure because they don't have their legs out in front of them," she said. In those cases, amputees can use weight bags to compensate.

Army Capt. David Rozelle attended the ski weekend last year, when it was first offered, after losing his right foot. He returned this time to help fellow soldiers.

"This gives them the confidence to overcome," Rozelle said.

"This weekend is all about providing an inspirational experience that focuses on abilities versus disabilities."

Cheryl Jensen

Organizer of Colorado ski trip

2 held in '82 massacre

BAGHDAD — U.S. forces have arrested an Iraqi father and son accused of participating in a 1982 massacre in the predominantly Shiite Muslim village of Dujaal after an assassination attempt on then-President Saddam Hussein that was widely regarded as a defining moment in his reign.

Senior U.S. officials said in interviews that Abdul-Rahman and Muzhir Abdullahi were arrested Monday and charged with crimes against humanity for their alleged role in the killing of up to 400 people associated with the Dawaa party, a Shiite group that carried out the attempt on Hussein's life on July 8, 1982.

Charges against the two detained men were referred to the Iraqi Special Tribunal, the entity responsible for trying those accused of crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide in Iraq between 1968 and 2003, the period in which Hussein's Baath Party ruled the country.

The charges arise from a series of events in Dujaal, located about 40 miles northeast of Baghdad, after the failed assassination attempt.

According to some reports, up to 400 people were killed. A senior U.S. legal adviser in Baghdad, who spoke on condition that he not be named, said the Ravidis were charged in connection with 147 deaths.

From The Washington Post



Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Gipe, Kentucky's Army National Guard's top NCO, talks Wednesday about his role as the top enlisted soldier for the National Guard.

Guard official to focus on mental health of troops

By JOE BIESK

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT, Ky. — When the Kentucky Army National Guard's top noncommissioned officer takes on a new national role this summer, he plans to keep issues affecting soldiers' well-being at the military's forefront.

Chief among them is ensuring the lasting psychological well-being of Guard and Reserve troops returning from combat, Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Gipe said.

"There's a decompression timeframe you have to go through when you come back from being in a combat zone, and you try to get back into your civilian life," Gipe, 47, said.

Beginning in August, Gipe will serve as the top enlisted soldier for the Army National Guard. His role will be to serve as an adviser to Lt. Gen. Roger C. Schultz, the Army Guard's national commander, on soldiers' quality of life and training matters.

Unlike active-duty troops, Guard and Reserve soldiers do not always live near a military base. That sometimes makes it more difficult for them to get follow-up treatment, Gipe said.

Active-duty troops "can drive right across post" for health or mental health care, Gipe said. "The guard doesn't have that capability. So I'd like to look at whatever we can do and provide some kind of health care net."

There are more than 1,600 Kentucky National Guard soldiers and airmen mobilized overseas to Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herz-

govina and Kosovo. There are 1,200 Kentucky Guard troops currently in Iraq, and one in Afghanistan.

Currently, all soldiers returning from combat zones go through a "demobilization process" that includes a mental health assessment. Full-time active-duty troops, reservists already have counseling and other services available to them, Army spokeswoman Rhonda Paige said.

Military officials are continuously looking to improve on support services already in place, she said.

Right now, troops are briefed on the symptoms associated with post-traumatic stress disorder before leaving the combat zone. They are also given counseling on what they might expect when they return home, Paige said.

Before leaving the desert, troops take a survey that is followed up with a one-on-one interview with a health professional upon their return, Paige said.

A U.S. Department of Defense plan currently in the works would have all soldiers take a "reassessment" survey 90 to 120 days after they return from combat, Paige said.

Follow-up treatment is necessary for troops who may be dealing with "post-traumatic stress disorder," said Dr. David Fassler, a clinical associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Vermont.

"It's important to intervene early. People who experience trauma need support from family members, their community and in particular people who have been through similar experiences," Fassler said.

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IN THE STATES

BTK suspect hid in city he terrorized

By DAVID TWIDDY
The Associated Press

PARK CITY, Kan. — Dennis Rader, the man police believe is the BTK serial killer, hid for more than 30 years in plain sight.

He lived in this suburb of Wichita, the city he is suspected of terrorizing, with a wife and two children. He led a Cub Scout troop and was active in his Lutheran church. As an ordinance enforcement officer for the local government, he once measured grass in a front yard with a tape measure to see if it was too long, a neighbor said.

On Saturday, police identified Rader as a suspect in the BTK killings and announced an end to their 31-year manhunt. Although no charges have been filed, a jubilation collection of law enforcers and community leaders told a cheering crowd they were confident the long-running case could now be closed.

Officials also said they connected two more deaths to BTK — a self-coined nickname that stands for "Bind, Torture, Kill" — bringing his total to at least 10.

Authorities generally declined to answer questions in detail after announcing the arrest, but Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said DNA evidence was the key to cracking the case.

Wichita television station KAKE, citing unnamed sources, reported that DNA from Rader's daughter, Kerri, was instrumental

in his capture. On Sunday, KAKE anchor Larry Hattberg told CNN that the source said Rader was already under surveillance when his daughter's DNA was obtained. BTK stoked fears throughout the 1970s in Wichita, a manufacturing center with 350,000 residents, with his grisly crimes and letters sent to police and media.

The killer stopped writing in the late 1970s but resurfaced about a year ago with a letter giving details of a 1986 slaying that had not previously been linked to BTK.

In Park City, the suspect's neighbors said he helped elderly neighbors with yard work but described him as an unpleasant man who often went looking for reasons to cite his neighbors for violations of city codes.

Bill Lindsay, 38, lived behind Rader and said his wife caught Rader in their adjoining back yards filming the back of their house.

"He really acted really funny," said Lindsay, a truck driver.

Jason Day, 28, said his brother was in Rader's Cub Scout pack at the nearby Park City Baptist Church, but their mother pulled him out because of Rader.

"It was his demeanor," he said. "He was so strange."

Messages left for Rader's family members were not returned on Saturday.

Rader was being held at an undisclosed location, and it was not immediately clear



Wichita Police Chief Norman Williams gets a hug from District Attorney Nola Foulston during a news conference on Saturday after the arrest of a man suspected to be the BTK serial killer, who terrorized Wichita, Kan., throughout the 1970s and then resurfaced about a year ago.

if he had a lawyer. In Kansas, suspects generally appear before a judge for a status hearing within 48 hours of their arrest.

Prosecutor Nola Foulston said the death penalty would not apply to any crime committed between 1972 and 1994, when Kansas did not have the death penalty.

Along with his grisly crimes, the killer terrorized Wichita by sending rambling letters to the media, including one in which he named himself BTK for "Bind them, Torture them, Kill them."

In several of the letters, BTK included

clues to his identity.

Police had long believed BTK was a graduate of Wichita State University, as Rader was. Letters sent in the past year included jewelry that police believed may have been taken from BTK's victims and the driver's license of one of the victims.

The two newly identified cases were similar to the early ones with one exception, Sedgewick County Sheriff Gary Steed said: The bodies had been removed from the crime scenes. One of the victims lived on the same street as Rader.

U.S. training program

WASHINGTON — Indonesia may resume participation in a U.S. military training program after an absence of more than a decade, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has determined.

Resumption generally is viewed as a first step in lifting the ban on military-to-military ties between the two countries.

The Bush administration restricted Indonesia's participation after its military failed to cooperate fully in the investigation of the killings there of two U.S. citizens in August 2002.

But Rice now has determined that Indonesia has and continues to cooperate with the FBI's investigation into the murders.

Time editor dies

NEW YORK — Henry A. Grunwald, a top Time magazine editor who led the publication as a modern voice in national and world affairs, then became U.S. ambassador to his native Austria, has died. He was 82.

Grunwald died Saturday of heart failure at his Manhattan home. Time editor in chief Norman Pearlstine said in a letter to readers that appears in the issue of the magazine out Monday. Grunwald was in the process of writing a book on defibrillators — a project that he began after the technology saved his life last year.

After Grunwald was named managing editor of Time in 1968, having been a writer, senior editor and foreign editor, he began to award bylines and introduced new sections on the environment, the sexes and behavior.

Va. gay marriage ban

RICHMOND, Va. — A proposed constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage in Virginia easily won final approval Saturday by both chambers of the General Assembly.

The measure would have to be approved again by the Legislature next year and ratified by voters in the 2006 general election before it would become part of the Virginia Constitution.

The House of Delegates voted 79-17, and the Senate voted 30-10 to pass the final version of the amendment.

Virginia law already prohibits same-sex marriages. However, many legislators argued that an amendment is necessary to ensure the courts do not force Virginia to recognize gay marriages or civil unions performed in other states.

From The Associated Press

National ID issue stirs fear

Some think anti-terrorism tool could be used for other purposes

By SUZANNE GAMBOA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A proposal to stop potential terrorists from getting a U.S. driver's license may turn the licenses into a national ID card or help the federal network track gun purchases, opponents fear.

Conservatives, civil libertarians, gun owners and others share such concerns about a House-passed bill that broadly rewrites the rules for licenses and is portrayed as an anti-terrorism tool.

They fear that licenses, like Social Security numbers, could be used for purposes well beyond their original intent.

These opponents say the measure, passed by a 261-161 vote January and supported by the White House, even could make it possible for the government to monitor people's movements in the country through a chip in a license.

"Supporters of this don't seem to have the ability to look beyond how this system they are putting in place can change. They can't see how it can metamorphose into a national ID card," said Steve Lilienthal, director of the

Free Congress Foundation Center for Privacy & Technology.

The House passed the legislation Feb. 10. Supporters are promoting the bill, which the Senate has yet to consider, as another way to fight terrorism.

Under the measure, states must verify they are giving licenses to U.S. citizens and legal residents. If they fail to do so, federal officers cannot accept licenses from residents of those states as proof of identity to get on an airplane or into a federal building, for example.

Lilienthal, whose think tank says it is politically and culturally conservative, asked what is there to stop the government from eventually requiring information about people's health, criminal backgrounds or gun ownership.

Larry Pratt, executive director of Springfield, Va.-based Gun Owners of America, says the bill "hands an open-ended blank check" to the government to collect information about people.

States can opt out of the requirements, but the bill would withhold money from states for driver's license improvements if they do.

The bill's sponsor, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Rep.

James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., told colleagues that the minimum standards already are met by most states and are intended to prod those whose lax licensing checks are "a magnet for foreign terrorists, criminals, home grown identity thieves and illegal aliens."

The Sept. 11 commission urged Congress last year to make it harder for people to get a driver's license, noting that some of the Sept. 11 hijackers fraudulently obtained licenses that allowed them to board commercial flights.

Dan Stein, executive director of the Federation of Americans for Immigration Reform, played down the privacy concerns and said the bill is written in such a way as to prevent abuse. He said national driver's license standards are indispensable to curbing illegal immigration.

"No one has a legitimate privacy question over whether someone is legal or not. That ought to be verifiable," he said.

But in Montana, members of the state House are refusing to cede their driver's license authority to Washington. Last week, they approved a bill that prohibits the adoption of federal driver's license standards for noncommercial licenses.

'Sideways' stands out at Independent Spirit Awards

Film earns 6 prizes, including best picture, actor, director

The Associated Press

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — The wine-country rambles "Sideways" dominated Saturday's Independent Spirit Awards, winning best picture and five other prizes, including acting honors for Paul Giamatti, Virginia Madsen and Thomas Haden Church.

Alexander Payne won the directing honor for "Sideways," while he and writing partner Jim Taylor shared the screenplay award.

"Sideways" also received five Oscar nominations, including best picture.

Giamatti, who stars as a sad-sack who finds the possibility of new love during a wine-tasting road trip with a buddy, earned the lead-actor prize at the awards, which honor films at least

partly financed outside the Hollywood studio system.

Catalina Sandino Moreno won best actress for "Maria Full of Grace," in which she plays a Colombian woman thrust into danger when she signs on to smuggle heroin into the United States. The role also earned Moreno a best-actress nomination from the Academy Awards.

Supporting honors went to Madsen as a wine enthusiast who becomes Giamatti's romantic interest and Church as his randy pal, who's out for one last fling before his wedding. Madsen and Church also received Oscar nominations.

"Garden State" — a romantic comedy written and directed by Zach Braff,

who also stars — was honored as best picture by a first-time filmmaker. "Maria Full of Grace" writer-director Joshua Marston won for best first screenplay.

Winners were chosen by the 9,000-member nonprofit Independent Feature Project/Los Angeles, which includes actors, directors, writers and other industry professionals.

Other winners:

■ Best foreign film: "The Sea Inside."

■ Best documentary: "Metallica: Some Kind of Monster."

■ Best debut performance: Rodrigo de la Serna, "The Motorcycle Diaries."

■ Best film shot for under \$500,000: "Mean Creek."



Actor Paul Giamatti reacts after winning for best male lead for his role in "Sideways" at the 20th IFP Independent Spirit Awards on Saturday in Santa Monica, Calif. At right is co-star Thomas Haden Church, who won earlier as best supporting actor.

Governors set out to help high school education in U.S.

By BEN FELLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's governors offered an alarming account of the American high school Saturday, saying only drastic change will keep millions of students from falling short.

"We can't keep explaining to our nation's parents or business leaders or college faculties why these kids can't do the work," said Virginia Democratic Gov. Mark Warner, as the state leaders convened for the first National Education Summit aimed at rallying governors around high school reform.

The governors say they want to emerge Sunday with specific plans for enacting policy, weary of statistics showing that too many students are coasting, dropping out or failing in college.

At least one agreement is likely. Achieve, a nonprofit group formed by governors and corporate leaders, plans to announce Sunday that roughly 12 states are committing to raise high school rigor and align their graduation requirements with skills demanded in college or work.

The high school summit drew at least 45 governors from the 50 states and five U.S. territories, along with top names in U.S. industry and education. The leaders broke into groups late in the day to debate ideas, and planned to do the same through Sunday.

Most of the summit's first day amounted an enormous distress call, with speakers using unflattering numbers to define the problem. Among them: Of every 100 ninth-graders, only 60 graduate from high school on time and only 18 make it through college on time, according to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.

The most blunt assessment came from Microsoft chief Bill Gates, who has put more than \$700 million into reducing the size of high school classes through the foundation formed by him and his wife, Melinda. He said high schools must be redesigned to prepare every student for college, with classes that are rigorous and relevant to kids and with supportive relationships for children.

"America's high schools are obsolete," Gates said. "By obsolete, I don't just mean that they're broken, flawed or underfunded, though a case could be made for every one of those points. By obsolete, I mean our high schools — even when they're work-



Microsoft founder Bill Gates addresses the National Education Summit on High Schools general session on Saturday in Washington. Gates said America's high schools are obsolete, meaning they "cannot teach all our students what they need to know today."

ing as designed — cannot teach all our students what they need to know today."

Summit leaders have an ambitious agenda for every state: to raise the requirements of a high school diploma, improve information sharing between high schools and universities, and align graduation standards with the expectations of colleges and employers. Governors say they're in a position to unite the often splintered agendas of business leaders, educators and legislatures.

But such changes will take what Gates singled out as the biggest obstacle: political will.

Requiring tougher courses for all students, for example, could face opposition from parents and school officials, particularly if more rigor leads to lower test scores and costly training.

Gov. Mike Huckabee, R-Ark., the most reliable predictor of success in college is a student's exposure to challenging high school courses — and that governors know they must act.

"This is an issue that transcends all those typical things that cause people to split in different directions," Huckabee said.

Razzies 'honor' Rumsfeld, Bush for 'Fahrenheit' clips

Halle Berry actually shows up to accept her worst actress trophy

By MIKE CIDONI

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Hoisting her Academy Award in one hand and newly won Razzie in the other, Halle Berry reveled in a career low point.

"Onigash, oh my God," Berry gasped Saturday night, feigning excitement. "I never in my life thought that I would be here, winning a Razzie. It's not like I ever aspired to be here, but thank you."

Berry was named worst actress for 2004's action bomb "Catwoman," which also took the prize for worst film at the 25th annual Razzies, an Oscar spoof that trashes Hollywood's worst.

President Bush won the worst-actor award for his appearance in news and archival footage of Michael Moore's satiric documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11." Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was voted worst supporting actor for "Fahrenheit 9/11," while Britney Spears' fleeting cameo in the documentary brought her the worst supporting actress award.

Razzies founder John Wilson said the prizes were not meant to mock Moore's film, only the statements Bush and the others make while "putting their highly paid, highly skilled feet in their mouths repeatedly and sucking on them."

Berry, one of several Oscar-winning actors to be dishonored by the Golden Raspberry Award Foundation, was the first actor to accept a Razzie in person since Tom Green did so for his part in 2001's "Freddy Got Fingered."



WARNER BROS. PICTURES/AP

Halle Berry was picked Saturday as worst actress for 2004's action bomb "Catwoman," which also took the prize for worst film at the 25th annual Razzies.

Berry, who wore a simple black dress, explained why she showed up at the ceremony.

"When I was a kid, my mother told me that if you could not be a good loser, then there's no way you could be a good winner," she said.

IN THE WORLD

Pontiff appears at window

Surprise appearance is first since surgery

BY BRIAN MURPHY
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II surprised the world Sunday with his first public appearance since surgery — just moments after a Vatican official outside St. Peter's Basilica read the ailing pontiff's appeal for prayers.

No words were spoken by the 84-year-old pope in his one-minute greeting from Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic. But the unscheduled appearance, during which John Paul touched his throat fitted with a breathing tube, sent powerful messages about his struggle to recover.

The pope appeared alert as he sat and waved from a hospital window, which raised hopes he was making progress following a tracheotomy Thursday to ease a breathing crisis. It also displayed his personal determination to maintain continuity in the church.

The Vatican had previously announced John Paul would skip his weekly blessing — a 26-year tradition he didn't miss even after he was shot in 1981 and was recovering from an operation in 1992.

The Vatican's undersecretary of state, Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, served as substitute on Sunday, reading a message from the pope while standing between the towering statues of St. Peter and St. Paul outside the basilica.

"Dear brothers and sisters, once again I



Pope John Paul II, flanked by Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano, looks through a window at the crowd gathered in front of Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic on Sunday.

address you from the Agostino Gemelli Polyclinic," Sandri told about 5,000 people in the square, relaying the pope's message. White drapes were drawn over the window where the pope often gives his weekly address.

Minutes later — at the hospital 2.5 miles away — curtains were pulled back from the pope's 10th-floor suite. He was wheeled up to a closed window, where he waved with his right hand and made signs of the cross to about 200 people on the hospital grounds.

The pope, wearing his usual white robe, then touched his throat, but neither the inserted tube nor other signs of the operation were visible. His gestures were strong and he appeared in good form.

The appearance gave the clearest sign the pope was improving since the surgery, but how and to what extent remains unknown. The next official health update is expected Monday.

ANSA news earlier reported the pope showed no signs of infection, citing un-

named medical sources. Any step toward recovery, however, is complicated by the pope's battle with Parkinson's disease.

One important decision facing the pope's doctors is how long to leave in the breathing tube, which draws in air instead of the nose or mouth. In some patients, the tube remains permanently.

This is a particularly significant development because the pope has spent a lifetime savoring the art of the spoken word: as a young amateur actor, as a linguist with command of a dozen languages, and as pontiff, preaching in far-flung churches, airfields and stadiums.

Parkinson's has caused the pope's words to slurred and his sentences are often punctuated with small gasps.

Winded, the 84-year-old John Paul has often had to listen from his wheeled throne as his speeches are read out by aides.

Church officials say he has sent a message of dignity, courage and acceptance of life's trials by remaining in the public eye despite his declining health.

Sharon: Peace process in peril after bombing

BY RAVI NESSMAN
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Sunday that peace efforts with the Palestinians would be frozen if they do not crack down on militant groups in the wake of a weekend suicide bombing that killed four Israelis outside a Tel Aviv nightclub.

Friday's attack and its aftermath broke two weeks of relative calm and strained recently warming relations between the Israelis and Palestinians following the election of moderate Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas last month. Dozens of people were wounded in the bombing.

There were conflicting accounts as to who was responsible for the attack. Islamic Jihad, a Palestinian militant group with leadership in Lebanon and Syria, claimed responsibility Saturday.

Abbas blamed the attack on a "third party," which other Palestinian officials said was the Lebanese guerrilla group Hezbollah, which is backed by Syria and Iran. Hezbollah denied the accusation.

A senior Israeli military official said Hezbollah had nothing to do with the attack but was vigorously working to carry out other attacks on Israel. Police remained on heightened alert throughout the country Sunday.

Sharon blamed the attack on Islamic Jihad militants, working on the orders of their leaders in Syria. Syria denied involvement.

Abbas has resisted Israel's previous demands to crack down, saying he preferred diplomacy.

Sharon demanded Sunday that Abbas carry out an immediate operation against Islamic Jihad.

In Ramallah, Palestinian leaders decided Sunday to postpone an upcoming meeting in Egypt with radical Palestinian groups, which was to focus on firming up a ceasefire with Israel and on Palestinian reforms. Palestinian Deputy Prime Minister Nabil Shaath said.

Officials: Black market dealers gave Iran nuke info in late '80s

The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — By the late 1980s, members of a black market network had handed Iran all the basic knowledge the Middle Eastern country needed to set up technology that can be used to make atomic weapons, diplomats familiar with an investigation of Iran's nuclear ambitions said Sunday.

The officials, who are familiar with the work of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency, spoke on the eve of a board meeting of the U.N. nuclear watchdog that will discuss Iran and other potential world nuclear concerns.

An agency probe over the past two years had earlier established that Iran ran a clandestine nuclear program for nearly two decades, including working on uranium enrichment — which can be used to make weapons.

Diplomats, who requested anonymity, said Saturday that the new revelations were significant

Nuclear fuel deal

BUSHEHR, Iran — Russia and Iran signed a deal Sunday that would deliver nuclear fuel to the Middle East country for the startup of its first reactor — a project the United States had for years pushed Moscow to drop, claiming Iran is trying to build a nuclear bomb.

Iranian and Russian officials signed the agreement at the Bushehr nuclear power plant after touring the \$800 million complex.

Both officials refused to discuss the details of shipping the nuclear fuel to Iran and the spent fuel back to Russia.

From The Associated Press

because they indicated Iran had full possession of enrichment know-how from the black market network run by Abdul Qadeer Khan, the father of Pakistan's atomic bomb, earlier than previously believed.

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Despite China's warning, Clinton pays Taiwan visit

The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Former President Clinton visited Taiwan on Sunday despite China's warning that his visit could violate Washington's "one-China" policy, and he urged the rivals to set aside their differences and work closer together economically.

Taiwanese investors in China are giving hope to Chinese workers and could help reduce the possibility of a conflict between the two sides, Clinton told a packed auditorium in Taipei.

"While our differences are important, our common humanity matters more," Clinton said. "The more people have positive things to do, the less likely they are to fall into destructive patterns."

Clinton's one-day visit to Taiwan comes after China warned that the trip could violate the "one-China" policy under which the United States agrees to have no diplomatic ties with Taiwan and recognizes Beijing as Chi-

na's sole government.

China and Taiwan split in 1949 amid civil war, but Beijing considers the democratic, self-ruled island to be Chinese territory. China's leaders balk at any actions they feel lend support to Taiwan's government, and they have repeatedly threatened war if Taiwan moves toward formal independence.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan said last week that Clinton, as former president, should be familiar with "China's solemn position on the Taiwan question."

This was Clinton's first visit to Taiwan since he was elected president in 1992. Many Taiwanese are fond of Clinton, who had made four trips to the island as Arkansas governor.

He was to have dinner with Taiwanese President Chen



Mark Chen, vice chairman of the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, left; Wang Jin-ying, chairman, second left; and an unidentified Taiwanese woman, present former President Clinton with clay pottery Sunday at the Taipei International Conference Center in Taipei, Taiwan.

Shui-bian later Sunday, officials said.

Clinton arrived in Taiwan from Japan. He had earlier visited China after touring areas in eastern Asia ravaged by the Dec. 26 tsunami.

Hillary's first endorsement for presidency?

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Former President Clinton said Sunday that his wife, Hillary, would be an excellent

choice as the first female leader of the world's most powerful nation.

In an interview with Japan's TV Asahi, Clinton said he did not know whether his wife, a New York senator, has any plans to one day run for the presidency.

"I don't know if she'll run or not," he told the network, but added, "She would make an excellent president, and I would always try to help her."

Hillary Rodham Clinton has said she plans to run for re-election as New York senator in 2006. Speculation has periodically surfaced, however, that the 57-year-old former first lady may

have her sights set for the presidency in 2008.

Results from a U.S. poll released last week showed that six in 10 American voters believe the United States is ready for a female president.

Fifty-three percent thought Sen. Clinton should try for the job, according to the survey by the Siena College Research Institute and sponsored by Hearst Newspapers.

Sen. Joseph Biden said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" that Sen. Clinton "is likely to be the nominee" and said he thinks "she'd be incredibly difficult to beat."

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Feb. 28)	102.00
South Korean won (Feb. 28)	982.00
Euro cents (Feb. 28)	16.3525
Dollar buys (Feb. 28)	0.7388
British pound (Feb. 28)	1.5196
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3777
British pound	\$1.9186
Canada (Dollar)	0.7397
Denmark (Krone)	6.5322
Euro (Euro)	0.8089
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.3247/0.7552
Hungary (Forint)	7.9894
Italy (Lira)	183.69
Iceland (Krona)	60.665
Switzerland (Franc)	1.031
Thailand (Baht)	34.85
Taiwan (New Dollar)	1.0445
Norway (Krone)	6.7565
Philippines (Peso)	44.7
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)	1.6256
South Korea (Won)	1,067.50
Sweden (Krona)	1.031
Thailand (Baht)	34.85
Taiwan (New Dollar)	1.0445
(Military exchange rates are those available to U.S. customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for foreign currencies; commercial rates, i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany, lock with your local currency banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign rates to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars to euro, and the euro, which is dollars to euro.)	

PRECIOUS METALS

Gold	New York Merc	\$349.90
Silver		\$7.291

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.50
Federal funds market rate	2.525
3-month bill	2.74
30-year bond	5.00
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America	

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

Germs at work

The Associated Press

You probably clean vigorously at home, at least occasionally. But how often does this happen at work? Maybe not as effectively as you may wish or suspect, according to a five-city study of germs found in office settings.

Charles Gerba, a microbiologist at the University of Arizona, collected samples from office buildings in Atlanta, Chicago, New York City, San Francisco and Tucson, Ariz., last fall to determine how much human parainfluenza 1 virus was

present. The virus is responsible for common respiratory infections, such as pneumonia and bronchitis.

The survey collected samples from common areas: telephone mouthpieces, computer mice, desktops, doorknobs and handles, conference rooms, light switches and office cubicles.

Conference rooms were found to have far fewer germs than cubicles, while desktops had the most of the tested surfaces. In all office buildings, the light switch was the least contaminated site.

Japan completes record-setting tunnel



KYODO NEWS/AP

Workers and engineers shoot "banzai" as officials press a button to detonate the last three feet of rock with explosions at a tunnel near Aomori, Japan, on Sunday. Japan has created what engineers here call the world's longest overland tunnel as part of a new bullet train line under construction to link Tokyo with the northern city of Aomori.

Man accused of biting dog — really

EDINBURGH, Scotland — A partially sighted man who allegedly bit his guide dog on the head and kicked it has been charged with animal cruelty, Scottish police said Thursday.

An eyewitness reported seeing the 34-year-old bite the Labrador and kick it repeatedly at a shopping mall in Edinburgh on Feb. 8, a spokesman for Lothian and Borders Police said.

Officers arrested the suspect on Feb. 10 and charged him with animal cruelty and a breach of the peace, the spokesman said. She refused to name the man and didn't give a date for an expected court appearance.

Police took the 8-year-old dog into protective care and handed it to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

China lawmakers seek to protect female fetuses

BEIJING — China's top lawmakers want to make it a crime for doctors to detect an unborn baby's sex for non-medical reasons, in a bid to combat the abortion of female fetuses, government-run newspapers reported Sunday.

Government figures show 117 boys are born in China for every 100 girls — a gap blamed largely on a policy limiting most couples to one child. In a society that values sons, many parents abort baby girls, hoping to try again for a boy.

In some rural areas, the ratio is approaching 150 boys for every 100 girls, leading to fears of a huge surplus of men who will be unable to find mates in coming decades.

Amnesty International founder dies

LONDON — Peter Benenson, who founded Amnesty International more than four decades ago, died Friday night from pneumonia, the human rights organization said. He was 83.

Benenson began his human rights campaigns as a boy in support of Spanish civil war orphans and Jews fleeing Hitler's Germany. In 1961, at the age of 40, he set up Amnesty International after reading an article about the arrest and imprisonment of two students in a cafe in Lisbon, Portugal, who had drunk a toast to liberty.

He initially envisioned Amnesty as a one-year campaign, but it went on to become one of the world's largest independent human rights organizations. Based in London, it now has more than 1.8 million members and supporters worldwide.

From The Associated Press

FACES

Awaiting the verdict

NBC to debut new 'Law & Order' series, 'Trial by Jury'

BY HAL BOEDEKER

The Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel

If the idea of another "Law & Order" makes you fear for the future of television, don't judge "Trial by Jury" sight unseen. The fourth drama in the franchise delivers a surprisingly potent mix of compelling characters and plots.

Creator Dick Wolf deftly explores the personal ambition and media manipulation that can drive the legal process. He guides the NBC series, which debuts Thursday, with a showman's sure touch.

The first two episodes are mandatory for "Law & Order" fans because Jerry Orbach plays Lennie Briscoe for the last time. The actor, who died in December, appears a forceful pro in his final work.

Bebe Neuwirth lifts "Trial by Jury" with her striking performance as Tracey Kibre, an assistant district attorney. The actress who was Lilith Crane on "Cheers" expertly delivers the caustic dialogue. But she also invests the show with welcome humanity when Kibre doubts herself or worries about strategy.

The show surrounds Neuwirth with fine actors. Amy Carlson of "Third Watch" stands out as calm Kelly Gaffney, another prosecutor.

'Law & Order: Trial by Jury'

Cast: Bebe Neuwirth, Jerry Orbach, Amy Carlson, Kirk Acevedo, Fred Dalton Thompson.

Where and when: The NBC drama debuts in the States on Thursday. It moves to its regular slot on Fridays the next night.

"Trial by Jury" stocks up on noteworthy guest stars. The premiere features Candice Bergen as a judge, Annabella Sciorra of "The Sopranos" as a defense attorney and Sam Waterston of "Law & Order." Bergen returns for the second episode, which features Peter Coyote as a defense attorney and "Law & Order" alumna Carey Lowell.

The third episode brings on Lorraine Bracco, the shrink from "The Sopranos," as a defense attorney. Filming in New York also allows "Trial by Jury" to draw on some of Broadway's best young actors, such as Ben Shenkman and Aidan Gillen.

They are all working in a show that's bracing for its cynicism.

"Trial by Jury" shatters any idealistic take on the courtroom in the first three episodes, with dark stories about a theater producer, a career criminal and a vigilante.

Along with nifty plot twists, the drama supplies tantalizing close-ups of everything from jury consultants to jury deliberations.

The plots pack a punch because "Trial by Jury" unfolds with intelligence and authority. The show's jaded quality feels authentic and essential, not a bit of show-business posturing.

If "Trial by Jury" sides with the prosecutors, it still frankly depicts their maneuvering and political aspirations. District Attorney Arthur Branch (Fred Dalton Thompson) might have a pleasing, no-nonsense style, but he's always looking out for No. 1.

The guest stars who play the defense attorneys are not at a disadvantage dramatically. Sciorra, Coyote and especially Bracco feast on some of the juiciest material this season.

"Trial by Jury" should be good news for NBC, which could use another new hit drama to go along with "Medium." The new "Law & Order" offers a rejuvenating jolt for the franchise: It's less grim than "Special Victims Unit" and far less dependent on one actor, as "Criminal Intent" is on Vincent D'Onofrio.

"Trial by Jury" might not be doing anything new, but it's telling stories extremely well. The verdict: Long may this series be in session.

Hayek, Cruz arrive in hybrid cars

Salma Hayek and Penelope Cruz kicked off the Oscar weekend party scene at the "Rock the Earth" event organized by Global Green USA in Los Angeles.

Oscar presenters Hayek and Cruz are among the celebrities who planned to support Global Green USA by arriving at the Academy Awards in hybrid cars.

"With global warming threatening us all, driving a fuel-efficient car like a hybrid is something that everybody can do to protect our planet," Hayek said at Thursday's "Rock the Earth."

"I personally own and drive a hybrid car, and I love it." The event was also attended by Oscar presenter Orlando Bloom, nominee Julie Delphy, actress Kate Bosworth and Chris Munn of the Los Angeles Lakers.

Tim Robbins, last year's supporting actor Oscar winner for "Boys n the Hood," played a short set at the party as "Bob Roberts," the corrupt right wing folk singer he portrayed in the similarly titled 1992 film.



Cruz



Hayek

Actress goes into labor at party

Actress Holly Robinson Peete, pregnant with her fourth child, was parting at a pre-Oscar bash when she went into labor in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"One minute she's grooving, the next minute her water breaks," said Michael Lewitess, a producer for "Access Hollywood" who was covering Thursday's party.

Her husband, Carolina Panthers quarterback Rodney Peete, was not at the party.

The 40-year-old actress gave birth to a boy early Friday and was doing "great," said her publicist, Patti Webster.



Robinson Peete

Loretta Lynn sidelined by back pain

Back pain is keeping country legend Loretta Lynn off the stage.

The 69-year-old singer postponed Friday's Oklahoma City concert and a Saturday show in Fort Worth, Texas, because of pain from a back injury.

Lynn is starting a rigorous tour after winning a Grammy for her comeback album "Van Lear Rose." The album, a collaborative effort with White Stripes singer Jack White, also earned the team a Grammy.

Lynn now has three Grammys, her first came in 1971.

A DCF Concerts spokesperson said Lynn's Oklahoma City concert will probably be rescheduled for June.



Lynn

Manilow opens new Vegas show

Barry Manilow has opened his new Las Vegas Hilton show to the public, crooning favorites such as "Mandy," "Copacabana" and "It's a Miracle."

Elton John and Steve Wynn were among those in the full-house audience of 1,700 Thursday as Manilow belted out familiar tunes and a new offering, "Here's to Las Vegas."

"Manilow: Music and Passion" is booked for 24 weeks. Including breaks, it is due to run into 2006.

The 58-year-old entertainer has a desert home a short distance away in Palm Springs, Calif.



Manilow



Bebe Neuwirth, left, as Assistant District Attorney Tracey Kibre and Lorraine Bracco as Carla Grizzano appear in a scene from "Law & Order: Trial by Jury."

TUESDAY EVENING / MARCH 1, 2005

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	*ESPNs Pacific Report	Smallville 'Forsaken' Clark decides to let Lana see his secret		Growing Pains: Return of the Seavers' (2004, Comedy) Alan Thicke, Joanna Kerns, Kirk Cameron. Two offspring decide to have the Seavers' retirement plans.		The Simpsons 'Homer goes on a hunger strike.' (C)		Pacific Report	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (C)	Late Show With David Letterman (C)	
7	AFN-ATL	(S-46) Oprah Winfrey (C)	(3S) Guiding Light (C)	(17) General Hospital (C)	Headline News	Judge Judy (C)	Today (C)			I Spy (C)	Animaniacs	
8	NEWS	Hardball With Chris Matthews	The O'Reilly Factor (C)		Fox and Friends		Fox and Friends		Fox and Friends		American Morning	
9	SPORTS	(S-100) Figure Skating Four Continents Championships from Beijing. (Taped)	*SportsCenter		*NBA Basketball Teams to be Announced. (Taped)				*SportsCenter		*NBA Fastbreak (C)	
10	SPEC	The Simpsons 'Marge saves the world' (C)	Everybody Loves Raymond 'Fatherly against the King.' (C)	Star Trek: Enterprise 'Azul Prime' Reaction: leaders of a conspiracy to pit humanity against the Kling. (C)	NCIS: Miami 'We Footloose Fly' Fahren-feld finds a human bone in a tiger's paw print. (C)	Mark Twain (Part 2 of 2) (C) (DVS)		Friends 'Joy might declare his love.' (C)	Seinfeld 'Bette Midler plays in solfège' (C)	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Blind Date (C)	
11	AFN-FLA	Family Oddparents	Rugrats (C)	The Proud Family	Everwood 'My Brother's Keeper'	Sister, Sister (C)	Sister, Sister (C)	The Cosby Show	Home Improvement	Touched by an Angel (C)		
12	AFN-MW	Behind-Scenes: Ent. Tonight	*** 'Planet of the Apes' (2001, Science Fiction) Mark Wahlberg, Tim Roth.	*** 'Abandon' (2002, Suspense) Kate Holmes, Benjamin Bratt, Charlie Hunnam. A college student's long-missing brother is at black request. (R) (C)	*** 'Sweet Home Alabama' (2002) Reese Witherspoon, Josh Lucas.					'Indiana Jones & the Temple'		
13	TMC	(11S) *** 'Consenting Adults' (1986, Drama) Kevin Kline, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, Kevin Spacey. A suburban couple fails to pay a psychic note.		*** 'The Core' (2003, Science Fiction) Aaron Eckhart, Hilary Swank, Delroy Lindo. Earth's core is about to spin again or humanity will perish. (PG-13) (C)	*** 'The Word Season 2 All Stars' (C)							
24	PBS	Dragon Tales 'Kevin Spins 'Money' (C)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Novo Express to premiere the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.		Independent News 'Rush, knight of the oral talk radio. (N)		Charlie Rose 'Glen Reynolds, N.I.' (C)			
25	SHOW	(6:29) *** 'Glory' (1989, Drama) Matthew Broderick, Denzel Washington, Morgan Freeman. A young union officer loses an all-black regiment. (R) (C)										
27	A&E	City Confidential 'Devotee: A Co-Ed's Secret Life' A graduate student leads a life as a prostitute. (C)	American Justice	The Rise and Fall of the Jewish Mobster 'Dopey Benny' (C)	Cold Case Files 'The Flaming Grove Falls: Caught in the Mail' A murder suspect is in a new plot. (C)		Cold Case Files 'A man is convicted of murder 20 years after a woman's slaying. (C)		Crossing Jordan 'Blood Relatives' A former hockey star becomes a triple homicide suspect. (C)			
28	DISC	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	High Tech Toys	Future Tense	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	
29	TFC	(11S) TV Patrol World	OK, Fine Whatever								(1S) Home Boy	
30	CNN	Lo Dobbs Tonight	CNN Daybreak				American Morning (C)					
31	GOLF	*PGA Golf: Nationwide Tour - New Zealand PGA Championship	*Golf Central	*Golf Channel	What's in the Bag?	*Golf Channel 'Jeremy Jim McLean teaches course management.	*Golf Channel	*Golf Channel	*Golf Channel	*Golf Central	*Golf Channel	*What's in the Bag?
32	TLC	Overhaulin' 'Blue Bird' Customizing a 1963 Ford Mustang. (C)	Rides 'Eleanor' Building customized vehicles. (C)	Mad Machines 'Mace Hauler' Mechanics that handle colossal loads. (C)	Overhaulin' 'Blue Bird' Customizing a 1963 Ford Mustang. (C)		Rides 'Eleanor' Building customized vehicles. (C)		Rides 'Eleanor' Building customized vehicles. (C)			
34	TOON	Powerpuff Girls	Dexter's Laboratory	The Courageous Cowardly Dog	He-Man and the Masters of the Universe	Justice League	Ten Titans	Cartoon Cartoon Cartoon shorts.	Samurai Jack	He-Man and the Masters of the Universe	What's New Scooby-Doo?	Mucha Lucha
35	ANPL	The Most Extreme 'Super Sharks' Super series put sharks at the top of the food chain. (N)	Animal Precinct 'Dogs beaten to death. (N)	Austin Stevens: 'Snakemaster' in Search of the Giant Lizard' The Peninsula lizard. (C)	The Most Extreme 'Super Sharks' Super series put sharks at the top of the food chain. (N)		Animal Precinct 'Dogs beaten to death. (N)		The Most Extreme 'Moms' Mothers of the animal kingdom. (C)			
36	COM	Crank Yankers 'Jimmy Kimmel, Jim Carrey finds out his father's 100. (C)	South Park 'Cartman finds out his father's 100. (C)	Chappelle's Show (C)	Distraction 'Comedian on air wrestles 100. (C)	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Chappelle's Show (C)	Distraction 'Comedian on air wrestles 100. (C)	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Distraction 'Comedian on air wrestles 100. (C)	Distraction 'Comedian on air wrestles 100. (C)
40	NGC-A	Survive the Sahara	Snake Wranglers 'Women of the Serengeti. (C)	Other Chronicles 'Hillbilly and Wild Family' (C)	Wildlife Detectives 'The Contaminated world. (C)			The Bridge on the River Kwai: The Documentary	Kangaroo Comeback 'The challenges faced by the red kangaroo in Australia's harsh and arid lands. (C)	Air Crash Investigation 'Blowout' (C)		
42	SPIKE	* 'Mortal Kombat Annihilation' (1997, Action) Robin Shou, Talsia St. John, James Remar. Warriors have six days to save Earth from an evil, awakened. (C)										
43	FOX	That '70s Show 'The good guys in the class' (C)	That '70s Show 'The good guys in the class' (C)	The Simpsons 'The Simpsons and the Lisa' (C)	Seinfeld 'Jerry jacks reservation for dinner.' (C)	American Idol Performers audition before judges Paula Abdul, Simon Cowell and Randy Jackson. (N) (C)	House 'Drator' House agrees to stop paying dentists for a week. (N)		News	The Simpsons 'The Simpsons and the Lisa' (C)	Seinfeld 'Jerry jacks reservation for dinner.' (C)	
44	BET	Soul Food (C)	Soul Food Parents double-team hoops (C)	BET Nightly News	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live 'Top 10 Countdown'				Soul Food Parents double-team hoops (C)	Rap City: The Bassment		
46	COURT	NYTD Blue 'Here Comes the Court' A message parlor murder probe causes a clash among the detectives. (C)	Cops From Boston 'Officers stop armed man. (C)	Friends (C)	Forensic Files 'Rare gun and knife say to case. (C)	Forensic Files 'Forensic portrait of a killer. (C)	Forensic Files 'Parents convicted of murder. (C)	Forensic Files 'Parents convicted of murder. (C)	Forensic Files 'Ship targets news anchor. (C)	Friends (C)	American Idol	
48	STRWLD	The Simpsons 'The Drew Carey Show (C)										
50	LIFE	*** 'Love Lessons' (2000, Drama) Patsy Duke, Nancy Cox, Marc Maron. Premiere. A 50-year-old pregnancy causes a rift in her marriage. (C)										
51	ABC/FAM	(S-30) *** 'Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery' (1997) Mike Myers, Elizabeth Hurley	Who's Line Is It Anyway? 'Questions From a Hat.' (C)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)	Modern Marvels 'George Washington Carver Test' George Washington Carver. (N)
53	HIST	Modern Marvels 'New Engineering Discoveries' Attempts to create modern marvels. (C)										
54	STR-MW	(S-15) *** 'Rare Birds' (2001) William Hurt. Two men hatch a scheme to steal one's failing restaurant.	*** 'Dumline' (2002, Comedy-Drama) Nick Cannon, Zoe Saldana, Orlando Jones. Two drummers threaten a college band.									
58	ADV 1	(S-30) BASE Jumping	Game for It Jumping	Total Adventure Karate Kidage	*Adventure Challenge	Budget Travel	In the Air: Beyond the Horizon	Game for It	BASE Jumping	Next Were Miming stunts for new movie.	Total Adventure Karate Kidage	Total Adventure Karate Kidage
59	MTV	The Real World 'Phishheads' (C)	The Real World 'Phishheads' (C)	The Real World 'Phishheads' (C)	My Super Sweet 16 (N)	Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica	The Ashlee Simpson Show	The Ashlee Simpson Show	MTV Cribs	MTV Cribs 'Felix the cat. Beverly Hills. (C)	Punk'd Frankie Miller. (C)	Punk'd Jessica Biel. (C)
60	NICK	The Fairly Odd-Parents 'Happy Birthday to You' (C)	Rugrats Angelica saves her parents' lives. (C)	The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	The Fairly Odd-Parents 'Happy Birthday to You' (C)	SpongeBob SquarePants 'Bubblegum' (C)	Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide 'Bubblegum' (C)	Full House 'Joy performs with Wayne Newton. (C)	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 'The Fresh Prince' (C)	The Cosby Show 'The plans a slaying with a new boss. (C)	Roseanne	Murphy Brown 'Linda Elberle 'Dancer Stars' (2002) (N)

JAPAN TV

Morning
10:25 Korean Drama: SangDoo! Let's Go To School O.S.T. (4)(ends)

Afternoon
12:30 Nash Bridges (12)(r)
1:30 Hong Kong Movie (1987): Project A Part 2 (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

Evening
7:00 News (1)
7:30 What I Like About You (3)
8:00 The Simpsons (42)
10:00 News (1)
1:38 Pro Wrestling: WWE-X Special (8)

7:15 World News
9:15 World News Hour
10:10 BS Documentary (r)
11:15 CNN News
Afternoon
12:15 ABC News
2:15 PBS NewsHour
3:15 CNN News
4:15 World News Hour
5:15 Asian News
Evening
6:15 CNN News
7:15 News Today: Asia
8:15 News Today: World
9:15 Economic News
10:10 BS Documentary: International Film Festival Winners Series (1)
11:15 CBS Evening Grand Prix Series 2004
Best Selection (r)
1:10 BS Documentary: Auschwitz Mementos (r)
2:15 Asian News
3:35 World Golf Championships Preview (r)
4:15 Asian News

JAPAN TV-BS7

Morning
6:15 World News

JAPAN TV-BS11

Morning
10:00 Classical Music: Stephen Kovacevich
Recital (r)
Afternoon
3:00 U.S. Movie (1927): Wings (2:20)
Evening
7:00 NPR News
7:50 U.S. Movie (1989): Dead Poets Society
(2:10)
10:10 TV Series: The West Wing 3
(1:00)

WOWOW

Morning
7:30 Oswald #41
8:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Black Cadillac (1:38)
10:00 Italian Movie (2002): El Alamein (2:00)

Afternoon

12:00 TV Series: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
 1:30 Oswald #41
Evening
 6:00 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola
 6:00 TV Series: Dawson's Creek
 7:00 TV Series: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - Miami 2
 8:00 U.S. Movie (1986): About Last Night ...
 (1:57)
 12:00 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola
 12:00 Jazz File: Marcus Miller Live at JVC Jazz Festival in Tokyo
 1:10 Jazz File: Al Dimeola Live at JVC Jazz Festival in Tokyo

Morning
6:00 Wake Up!
7:00 M Size Monday
8:00 Top Choice

MOVIES • SPORTS

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Pacific's \$2 off gas coupons

In response to "AAFPES can't spin away taxes" (letter, Feb. 19), asking if there are coupons in the Pacific theater for \$2 off gas.

I used them until transferred to Germany in November. These coupons are a nice little savings. In fact, Army and Air Force Exchange Service Pacific offers coupons for \$4 off haircuts, \$3 off dry cleaning and many others every week! I always assumed that it was AAFES' way of "giving back" to the community. I guess it only applies if you are stationed in Japan.

I guess now the big complaint is going to be that AAFES is raising prices on gas again by 10 cents. Funny thing is that the article says that, in the States, the average is \$1.89. So why then does AAFES think it needs to raise prices to \$2.07 for regular unleaded in Germany? I am surely not a math major (ask anyone) but, if the average on Thursday in the States was \$1.89, how can AAFES justify charging its customers in Germany 18 cents more a gallon starting March 1?

Don't even get me started on the other gouging that AAFES does here in Europe; for example, all of its canteen meals at its restaurants (Burger King, Popeye's, Charley's, etc.) cost more than a dollar more than they do in Japan.

How many millions of dollars does AAFES make a year off the extra dollar they gouge us every day?

Maybe it's time for the AAFES regional managers to talk and get things straight. Otherwise the folks serving in Europe will, and should, feel slighted.

Come on, AAFES, it's time to do the right thing for all the people you "serve."

Master Sgt. Shawn Sorensen
Ramstein Air Base, Germany

Some came changes puzzling

In regards to the Feb. 11 article "Army rolling out its new fatigues" (Korea edition), I wonder why some of the changes were made.

I applaud the angled breast pockets they're easier to access when wearing Interceptor Body Armor), new ankle pockets (can be accessed when seated in a Humvee), wicking T-shirt (they sure stay cool) and other improvements.

But I cannot understand why the Army would put the rank on the center of the chest where no one can see it. Or, why not fabric badges instead of pin-on? I cannot understand the pin-on badges and rank placement. I have yet to speak with a soldier who can understand those two changes.

2nd Lt. Justin Baty

Camp Bucca, Iraq

Beret offers individuality

I thoroughly enjoyed "Bring back patrol cap" (letter, Feb. 22).

As a Brit embedded in Iraq, I would like to offer a slightly different view of the

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beret, which has been worn in all theaters by the British army in recent years.

The beret offers a degree of individuality through shaping and angle of wear.

In the British army, fashions vary from regiment to regiment — and officers and enlisted personnel cannot normally be identified by the way in which the beret is worn. Shock, horror within a homogeneous society! However, it does have the ability to humanize those of us who wear the beret.

Properly fitted and shaped, it is comfortable — and while offering no ballistic protection — when the situation allows, it can reduce tensions on the street. For day-to-day wear and most jobs, it is ideal.

Having thrown caution to the wind and put the beret issue does not raise emotions as the Combat Infantryman Badge has.

LT. Col. Simon Wilson

Baghdad

Do we need to be here?

A lot of people ask, do we really need to be here [in Iraq]? To me, the answer is most certainly yes.

While other members of my company flew up to get to our base, I was able to participate in a convoy. I was able to see the country firsthand.

Politically, we won a war that needed fighting but, on the ground, the children were without shoes. Many were begging for food. The ground literally looked like an apocalyptic wasteland. Getting into Baghdad and the more urban areas, there was a semblance of infrastructure.

A form of government is necessary, if only to put the will of the people into cohesive form and to set a course of action to ward that goal. With a new government, Iraq would be able to embark on a course that would improve the quality of life, create jobs, and promote spiritual and economic growth.

With this would be the need to improve

education. There was a time, under the banner of Islam, when Baghdad was known for its scholars, mathematicians, medicine and poetry.

With time and the guidance of a government dedicated to improving the conditions of its people, Iraq might be able to achieve this again. First, however, the Iraqi people must endure the tribulation of terrorists, people who would by threat of bomb or rifle try to force the people away from actions they themselves would choose. These are the actions of a few scared men and women whose actions are destroying the very people they claim to represent.

The future stewards of Iraq's society will very shortly be chosen by the Iraqi people. The guardians of Iraq's society will be an Iraqi army. The laws of Iraq society will be enforced by an Iraqi police force. That's my two cents.

Staff Sgt. Todd Samuelson

Iraq

Truck drivers know combat

I am writing from Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in reference to the personnel considered eligible for the Close Combat Badge. I think it's great that a new combat-related badge is being introduced. Lord knows these soldiers out here deserve a little hooah!

However, there has been a major oversight on the part of the motor transporters and our role here in theater. Since being deployed here in January 2004 with a combat heavy equipment transportation company, I think that most would agree that the truck drivers have arguably the most dangerous role here in theater. Truck drivers are responsible for being trained in responding to attacks: everything from being hit by shrapnel, response to ambush, close quarter combat, dismounted fighting positions to gun truck operations.

Although traditionally the transportation corps is not considered combat arms, truck drivers in combat are getting attacked and becoming injured or killed on a daily basis. Many leaders overlook that although we are responsible for transporting cargo, we are also responsible for transporting cargo, armor and combat engineer divisions' equipment — and their soldiers to and from the battlefield. Unlike the old days, we actually go into the "kill zone"; therefore, we have to be trained to respond and fight, just like they do.

We are at the same risk, if not more at times, because of the lack of major firepower and armor. Rocket-propelled grenades bounce off of tanks and Bradleys like bullets. I have witnessed this numerous times.

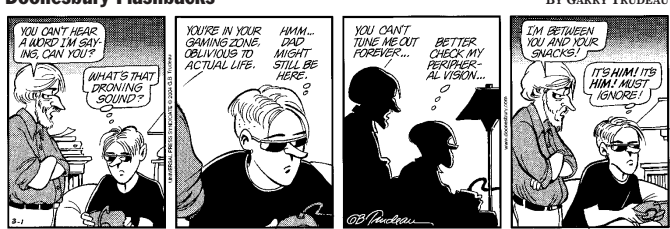
I am in a way undercutting the efforts and performance of our combat arms and combat direct support military occupational specialties. But I think these very soldiers appreciate and respect the efforts of the truck drivers now more than in any campaign before.

Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Mudd

Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury Flashbacks



OPINION

Gender corralling: A true high school crush

BY SARAH M. SELTZER

In the midst of the uproar over gender touched off by Harvard's president, Lawrence Summers, I have found myself going back to high-school memories and wondering why talented girls were constantly crying over bad math tests in the hallways.

When I was in ninth grade, geometry was my favorite subject. But this bravado didn't last, and I spent the next three years struggling with math demons. A's were followed by C's in quick succession. I liked a few areas in calculus; once I even spent a history class gleefully trying to solve a math problem. But usually it was the other way around — math class was absorbed by secretly writing sonnets in my notebook, and I left without having understood the material.

As I fell behind, I often gave up, refusing to do homework or to study. The boys in my math class shrugged off bad grades and vowed to study harder, but for me a C penetrated into my very soul, undermining my confidence and ability to enjoy the work. Every test became an agonizing challenge to my self-esteem — Will I fail? — and therefore meant far more than it should have.

My twin brother, at the same time, was losing faith in our advanced-placement English class. Most of his classmates were part of an "in crowd" of theory-spouting girls; he didn't like them. For a creative project, he wrote a series of lewd but hysterical epigrams — and he was disappointed with the grade he received. Although he had been an A student in English, he turned his attention elsewhere.

The disparity between our interests was

hardly an anomaly. The boys we knew swore they didn't "get" poetry, while most of the math "honors dropouts" were female. These girls had initially shown both aptitude and zest for the subject, but many were happy to drop down to regular math because they didn't want to face the constant threat of disaster they had experienced in honors, where everyone gets the occasional bad grade.

When I was a junior, a bunch of us staged a daylong walkout to bemoan gender inequality in a school that, despite its academic excellence, perennially had few girls in AP physics classes or in student government. The most controversial aspect of our rally was the "ratios" we posted in the hallways: the ratio of males to females who had been student-body president — 16 to 1; the ratio of men to women in AP English — 1 to 4.

The guys in particular were incensed. "It's not our fault that women can't get elected," they said. "It's not our fault that women can't do physics." Well, no. But that wasn't our point. The point was — and is — to ask ourselves why males and females are still making such divergent choices.

My theory is that my "failure" in math was due to a pre-emptive fear of failure. For girls, the value of keeping up an appearance of perfection is ingrained early, and most girls really, really don't like getting C's, just as they hate having pimples or dirt on their jeans. The exacting nature of math forces girls to confront the limits of their crafted perfection.

Although getting good grades has become the social norm for girls, being outstandingly brilliant has not. Many young women are



scared to demonstrate the aggression, the try-and-fail risk-taking found in many disciplines, but most markedly in advanced math and sciences. It makes them worry about seeming unfeminine. It makes them worry that other girls and boys won't like them.

This gender corralling works both ways; boys don't want to step outside of their gender norms either. Talking about books means talking about feelings. As a result, the once-male world of literary criticism has become markedly female at the undergraduate level—to the detriment of everyone's understanding of literature.

It's not the girls' fault or the boys' fault. But it is our collective responsibility to change this.

What if there was no norm? What if all girls were unafraid to keep trying until they "got" physics, and guys weren't afraid to "get" poetry? Would we line up in equal numbers to pursue every field? Probably not. But as Summers should have known, until that opportunity presents itself, innate differences are not even worth talking about.

Sarah M. Seltzer is a former editor of the Harvard *Crimson's* magazine; this column, which first appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, is adapted from a column in the *Crimson*.

Good enough for Congress, good enough for citizens

BY REP. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

Millions of people have come to the United States seeking the American dream. Generation after generation has worked hard to provide for their families, and Social Security has protected each in their later years. With this vital program facing serious financial difficulties ahead, we need to make the adjustments necessary to strengthen and fix Social Security.

By including voluntary personal retirement accounts, we can help strengthen Social Security for future generations. These accounts can help give low-income families and minorities a better and brighter financial future.

Let me be clear, Congress will not pass any reform that would change benefits for current and near-retirees.

Social Security is the only source of retirement income for 41 percent of elderly Hispanics, so it is extremely important that elderly Americans continue to receive all of the benefits that have been promised to them.

As for Social Security's financial future, many Democrats hold illusions that Social Security is fine. The reality is that the program faces serious problems down the road. In only 13 years — by 2018 — Social Security is projected to receive less in payroll taxes than it will pay out in benefits. Social Security then will be forced to begin cashing in its stored bonds, but the federal government will need to pay for that shortfall somehow — most likely with sharp payroll tax hikes and steep benefit cuts.

Democrats may not have a problem with this, but President Bush and Republicans do. Not only do we want to make Social Security permanently solvent, we also want to help people create nest eggs for themselves and their families. Personal retirement accounts can help accomplish this goal and

would be a boon for all Americans, especially Hispanics and other minorities.

By making a change that allows younger workers to voluntarily place a small portion of their Social Security taxes in personal retirement accounts, we can take a promising step toward fixing Social Security for future generations while still fully protecting benefits for retirees and near-retirees.

For the first time, low-income individuals would have the opportunity to pass a nest egg on to their children or grandchildren.

Hispanics are hard-working, family-oriented people. Like most Americans, they want financial security and they also want an opportunity to build nest eggs that they can pass on to their families. Unfortunately, because many Hispanics currently work in low- or middle-income jobs, they lack the real opportunity to put any money aside for retirement. They also are often too preoccupied with meeting their day-to-day and

month-to-month financial needs to focus on saving for their retirement.

Some Democrats, including members of Congress, say a personal retirement account is a risky gamble. But if such an account is such a gamble, then why do members of Congress participate in a program for their retirement similar to what President Bush is proposing for every other American?

Trust me, if these accounts were bad, members of Congress would never participate in them. Instead, it is for that very reason that we should allow people to create Social Security personal retirement accounts. It allows them the opportunity to invest in our country while also giving them the opportunity to build a secure nest egg.

Hispanics are a proud people who want to provide for their families. They support low taxes and prefer having a say in their retirement rather than rely on faceless bureaucrats. President Bush's Social Security reform principles fit them to a T.

By establishing a system with personal retirement accounts, Hispanics will be better able to create retirement income, increasing wealth in low-income and moderate-income households, and encouraging independence from the government.

As Naomi Lopez Bauman, a member of The Heritage Foundation's Mandate for Leadership Working Group on Social Security Reform, has noted: "Personal retirement accounts, even with modest rates of return, have an enormous potential to boost retirement income and reduce poverty dramatically. Personal retirement accounts also have the potential to promote intergenerational wealth for all socioeconomic groups."

Hispanics, like all Americans, want a secure retirement. Personal retirement accounts can give them something to call their own and leave for the next generation — and help make their American dream a reality.

Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., is a member of the House Budget Committee.

Mallard Fillmore



Boston cop count up

MA BOSTON — Boston Police Commissioner Kathleen M. O'Toole has authorized an additional 90 police officers to the force this year, but police union officials said the new hirings are not enough.

"We're trying to catch up with the attrition that has occurred during the past few years," O'Toole said.

Despite the additional officers, the Boston Police Department still will be down about 150 officers, or 11 percent, from five years ago. The Boston Globe reported, citing department statistics.

Last year, the police force peaked at 1,556 officers, compared with 2,195 in 1999.

Lost boys rescued

TN DAYTON — An overnight search for two young brothers who wandered away from their mountain home ended happily when rescuers found them in a rugged ravine and pulled them to safety.

The boys — ages 9 and 7 — did not appear to be hurt after rescue workers used retrieval baskets and ropes to haul them out of the steep ravine, which was several miles away from their home.

"This is definitely the way it is supposed to end," said county E-911 director Charles Riggs. "You can't know how it feels for a rescue person to find somebody in decent condition. It's just as emotional on the rescuers as on the parents."

The boys, whose names were not immediately released, were reported missing by their parents. The search involved 150 officers, some of them on horseback, and a state aircraft with special nighttime-detection equipment.

Paper baler death

CA OAKLAND — California state regulators are investigating the death of a man who was crushed after falling into a paper baler at a recycling plant and turning on the machine, authorities said.

Teaglas Espinoza, 32, was trying to control wiring in the area where paper is fed into a two-story-tall baling machine when he tumbled onto a weight-sensitive platform in a collection well, activating the baler, said Alameda County Coroner's spokesman Dan Apperson.

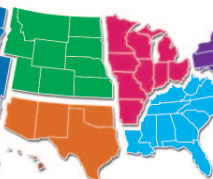
Espinoza was dead by the time paramedics arrived at the plant.

Bats flock to schools

TX CAMERON — Bats have invaded some of the schools in this Central Texas town, causing one elementary school to clear out two classrooms.

Bats that got into Ben Milam Elementary through tiny openings were found in toy boxes in those two classrooms.

"It's difficult because you're dealing with young kids and all they have ever heard about bats is that they are bad, like with vampires and Batman, and all," said Mike Noker, director of operations for the Cameron Independent School District, about 60 miles northeast of Austin. "This is the third year the school district has had to deal with the bats, which are the Mexican free-tailed variety, Noker said.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

The animals pose two main health risks — rabies from bites and bacterial and fungal diseases from their droppings, said Beverley Nix, a zoonosis control veterinarian for the state.

Store clerks stabbed

VT RUTLAND — A 23-year-old woman is being held in lieu of \$50,000 bail after being charged with stabbing two store clerks during a robbery attempt.

Neither of the men stabbed suffered life-threatening injuries. Mia Hendricks pleaded innocent in Vermont District Court in Rutland to a charge of assault and robbery with a dangerous weapon and two charges of attempted aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Rutland City Police said she stole \$359 at knife-point from the Short Stop on Grove Street.

Hendricks allegedly told police she needed money to pay off a group of New York heroin dealers to whom she was in debt.

Wolf breeding halted

SC COLUMBIA — The federal government will suspend a red wolf breeding program at Bull Island that has played a key role in saving the endangered species from extinction.

A family of red wolves that roamed the island will be shipped to other federal preserves because wildlife managers say the animals are needed more at those sites.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said it hopes to bring red wolves back to the thickets of Bull Island, near Charleston, in the next



Giddy up!

Aletta Husmann, 4, gallops along on her stick horse in a yard in Houston, while she waited to see the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Parade.

couple of years. But federal officials said they could not give a specific time. And they conceded that the South Carolina program isn't as important to wolf recovery efforts as it once was. Since 1987, the government has kept pairs of red wolves on Bull Island so they would breed and raise pups in the wild.

Headly crime fighter

CO FORT LUPTON — Kristi's unborn child will learn one day how he or she helped Mom try to stop a robber.

Kristi emulated her version of the Action Jackson cop figure and dove headfirst into the stolen car of a robber who had just grabbed cash from her register at a Family Dollar Store.

"I was trying to get the keys out of the ignition," recounted Kristi, who asked that her last name not be used.

"I had went in between the window and the door panel out of my own free will!" said Kristi, who was recuperating from cuts and bruises to her head.

Kristi was taken to a hospital, and both she and her unborn baby are doing fine, she said. Police continue to search for the robber.

Legal moonshine

WV SUMMERSVILLE — Tired of tourists at his winery constantly asking where they could get some moonshine, Rodney Fackmire decided to build his own distillery.

But despite producing Southern Moon Corn Liqueur since 2002, Fackmire has trouble getting it into the hands of the very tourists so eager for a taste of a legal version of the legendary backwoods beverage.

State law prohibits him from selling hard liquor directly to customers — a right that's reserved for West Virginia's 159 licensed liquor stores.

Fackmire hopes new legislation proposed in the West Virginia Senate and House will change his fortunes. The bill would allow "mini distillers" to sell their products directly to customers.

Under the legislation, mini distilleries would be defined as producing less than 20,000 gallons, or about 10,000 bottles, of hard liquor a year.

Anti-war yard displays

CA SACRAMENTO — One week after an ear-splitting, 300-person debate broke out in front of Stephen and Virginia Pearcey's home, the couple's political protest art is up again.

The Pearceys sparked a national free-speech debate after hanging a soldier's uniform from a noose. But neighbors say the recent display is just a high note in the couple's two-year political filibuster. And they are ready for it to end.

"It's just continued attention to our block that we have no control over," Hara Cohen said. "It's a nuisance."

The sign posted recently — showing a flag in the shape of the United States being flushed down a toilet — graced the house in various forms on the past two Fourth of July holidays. Cohen said. The recent incarnation said "Thanks to Mr. Bush!" on the side.

"This guy has a lot of time on his hands," Cohen said.



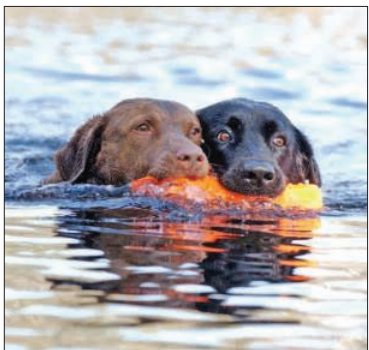
Just monkeying around

Two juvenile Japanese macaques play in the snow at the Central Park Zoo in New York.



A little shut-eye

Michael Johnston, 5, from Gustine, Texas, sleeps among his father's saddle, tack and boots during the Tucson Rodeo in Tucson, Ariz.



A wet game of fetch Retrievers Bushcot, left, and Moonshine return a buoy to shore that their owner, Ed Sims of Gloucester City, N.J., threw in Batsto Lake at Wharton State Forest in Washington Township, N.J.



Chilly cleanup

Kenneth Coaley uses a snow blower to clear the parking lot behind the Mohican Apartments in New London, Conn.



Look out below!

Building workers remove ice from the side of a building in New York.



Watch this move

Nicholas Sharrett, 5, and his father, Dwayne, chase down a puck while playing ice hockey at the Cooperstown, N.Y., ice rink.



Explosive view

The Korovin volcano near the village of Atka, Alaska, erupts and sends ash and steam to about 8,000 feet in the air.

Violence bill on hold

HI HONOLULU — Violence against referees seems to be a more deeply rooted problem in Hawaii than the combativeness of a few athletes, the chair of the Senate's Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee said.

A bill that would have made it a felony to attack a referee appears to have met its end — at least for now — before the committee.

Under current law, only school employees, prison guards and other correctional workers are given special treatment under assault statutes. Otherwise, intentionally causing another person bodily injury is a misdemeanor offense.

College gets an asteroid

NY CORTLAND — The State University of New York at Cortland is getting an alumna gift that is out of this world.

Literally. The upstate New York school will share an honor that only a dozen or so other American universities have — an asteroid named after it.

The five-mile-long, potato-shaped asteroid is 125 million miles from Earth. It takes about three Earth years to orbit the sun.

The gift is from 1970 graduate Wendee Levy, whose husband is a prominent amateur astronomer.

A slithery surprise

FL ST. PETERSBURG — Shannon Scavotto was running late for work when he opened the toilet to throw out a tissue. Inside was a snake as thick as a child's wrist, its diamond-shaped head sticking 10 inches out of the toilet.

Scavotto fashioned a noose out of some PVC pipe and string and grabbed a dark green pillowcase. By now the snake had reeled back into the bowls of the toilet.

Scavotto realized he had about 5 feet of snake and it was still coming. The snake was about 6 feet long.

Scavotto later learned he had pulled an African rock python from the toilet. Snake experts said the python, which isn't venomous, must have escaped someone's home and slithered down a drain into the city sewer system.

Inmate health care

TX DALLAS — Lapses in medical care in the Dallas County jail system have resulted in undetected illnesses, excess costs and risks to the public, a new study of conditions at the jail found.

The 52-page report includes 38 specific recommendations and suggests that the county review its contract with the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

The center has handled health care in the jail system since October 2003. About 90,000 inmates were incarcerated in the system last year.

The report indicates problems in how sick inmates are screened, potential dangers in how they are housed, inadequate medical and jail staff, and virtually no process for spotting inmates with tuberculosis. TB cases pose a risk to the public, the report states.

Disabled veterans' funds

UT OGDEN — Disabled veterans in Utah seek and re-

ceive less federal money than those in many other states, veterans' representatives say. Officials attribute the disparity to the state's underfunding of outreach programs and the West's cultural emphasis on self-reliance.

Utah's 160,000 veterans receive \$140 million annually in federal compensation and pension money; Maine's 145,000 veterans receive almost \$270 million.

Education funds ignored

IL CHICAGO — Mayor Richard M. Daley says the state's \$53 billion state budget proposal ignores an equitable way to fund public education. Daley wants a tax swap that shifts the burden of public education from property taxes toward increased sales and income taxes. Gov. Rod Blagojevich said he isn't convinced the state must increase income or sales taxes to solve inequities in school funding.

Water rights deal

NM BERNALILLO — Bernalillo wants to buy water rights for future growth. The community is interested in water rights that haven't been used for a decade or more. Town manager Lester Swindle said Bernalillo isn't interested in forcing anyone to sell water rights, but people who no longer need their rights for irrigation could mean some money.

Parent abuse alleged

NH LACONIA — A Belmont man accused of holding down his 10-year-old stepson while the boy's mother stabbed him claims he was driven to court by the boy's abusive behavior.

Stephen Weiner's plans to use a "battered parent syndrome" defense are laid out in papers filed in Belknap County Superior Court by his lawyer, James Carroll.

Weiner, 49, and his wife Jacqueline, 36, are accused of assaulting the 10-year-old and his 13-year-old brother for months. Both have pleaded innocent and are free on bail. The boys are in state custody.

Discrimination lawsuit

AL BIRMINGHAM — The University of Alabama System has agreed to pay former Alabama-Birmingham President Ann Reynolds \$475,000 to settle her discrimination lawsuit against the system's board of trustees. Reynolds claimed she was forced out in 2002 because of her age and gender. The system and its trustees did not admit wrongdoing in the settlement.

Prison warden resigns

CO DENVER — The warden of the privately run Brush Correctional Facility for Women has resigned and five officers face sexual misconduct and contraband charges.

Warden Rick Soares quit Tennessee-based GRW, which owns the 250-bed prison in Brush, on Feb. 18, said Alison Morgan, spokeswoman for the state corrections department. The warden was not implicated in any wrongdoing.

The corrections department referred contraband allegations involving two staff members and one inmate and sexual misconduct allegations involving three staff members to the district attorney.

Stories and photos from wire services

Horoscope

What seemed perfectly acceptable yesterday feels like a do-or-die situation today. Mercury and Pluto square off, emphasizing the extreme. It's healthy and creative to think about what would occur if a situation were taken to the limit. Express your concerns, but be careful to do so in the most political correct way possible.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(March 1). Give your all this year, and you won't be disappointed. Romance is a joy once you're over that one issue—make a point to clear it up so you can spend your spring in love! A powerful friend helps you find career luck and advancement in June. Education is essential and worth the cost. Connecting with a Leo or Capricorn is especially beneficial.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Dress like you know your role in life is important. You're going to need all the respect you can command to make today run smoothly. Otherwise, you wind up wasting needlessly for what you deserve to have right now.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

There is a temptation to throw your money after something that money just can't buy. Think: More artless commerce, more ideas/fewer things, more attention-less convenience. A Virgo's advice will help.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You earn points by simply refusing to give in to the bad social habits that pervade our society. Call people back promptly, and show up where you say you'll be. Success-bound Gemini must learn to make good on their word.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Healthy relationships are a product of consistent behavior. Resolve small differences, or let them go. If you practice this pattern consistently, maybe the big differences won't materialize at all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Computers go down, communication lines get crossed, and important details

are dropped at inopportune moments. But don't wait until everything is working properly to move forward. There may never be such a circumstance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Mental expansion is the desire to self-improvement. Besides, education is a real bargain. You'd be surprised at how experts have time for someone just learning if the student is humble and willing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

You probably still feel that your energy is being drained by something you face daily. Setting a new goal will solve the problem—preferably something big. Big goals provide their own energy source.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

The concept of surrender continues to be a theme. A key relationship is growing in power, practically absorbing you. You actually start making decisions that automatically give strength to the bond.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

There's something to be said for micromanagement today. At least it increases self-awareness. Each task you perform, regardless of how small it may seem, is a step toward or away from your purpose.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Seize the chance to build a better working relationship with someone you see daily. You won't be pulled to the next step on your career ladder. Rather, you'll be lifted into position by those beside and below you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Cash could fly from your pockets now. Earth-sign energy is crucial for making sound financial arrangements and being all-around fiscally savvy. So seek deals and/or advice from a Virgo, Taurus or Capricorn.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

The road has blocks, but you refuse to sit and wait for them to be lifted. You're taking the detour. With a few tweaks, your plan will work, and you can prove it. Continue to be brightly hopeful.

Creators Syndicate

Holiday Mathis



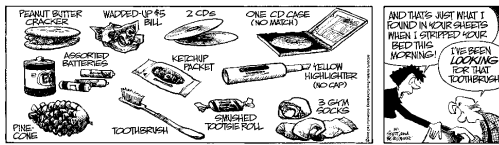
Calvin and Hobbes



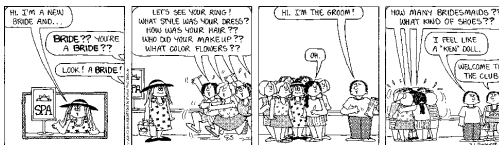
Jump Start



Zits



Kathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover

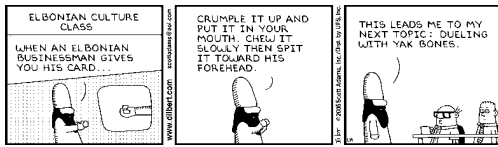
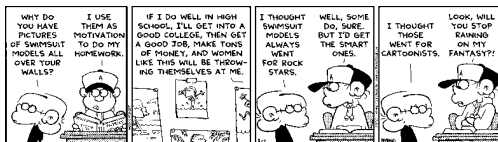


Better or Worse



Peanuts





Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
			18				19	20				
21	22	23				24						
25					26					27	28	29
30					31					32		
33				34					35			
			36					37				
38	39	40					41					
42					43	44				45	46	47
48					49				50			
51					52				53			

Across

- 1 Numbers racket?
- 5 Diamond club
- 8 Shot, for short
- 12 "Hi, sailor!"
- 13 "This tastes
terrible!"
- 14 Combine resources
- 16 Scout gathering
- 17 Parliamentarian
- 18 Hurry
- 19 Rings up
- 21 Changed the bulb
- 24 Astringent
- 25 On the rocks
- 26 Beach gathering
- 30 To and —
- 31 "... calm, —
bright"
- 32 Retainer
- 33 Official gathering
- 35 Shopper's mecca

Down

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Army rank (abbr.) | 27 subjects |
| 2 "Eureka!" | 28 Somewhere out there |
| 3 Male turkey | 29 Iodine source |
| 4 Composite | 29 Morays |
| 5 Set fire to | 31 Teeny bit |
| 6 Succumb to time | 34 Support of a sort |
| 7 Rainy Spanish area? | 35 Sweet Spanish wine |
| 8 Poise | 37 Uppr limit |
| 9 Apollo destination | 38 Sir's counterpart |
| 10 Oliver Twist's request | 39 Competent |
| 11 Automaker | 40 Puzzle's center? |
| 12 Ransom El— | 41 Injury |
| 15 Uncle's call | 44 Geological period |
| 20 Doesn't know the words? | 45 Roulette bet |
| 21 Jazz phrase | 46 Lincoln offspring |
| 22 Beige | 47 Mos. add up to them |
| 23 Author Uris | |
| 24 Metallic mix | |

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	S	K		A	S	H	E	S		R	E	P
I	K	E		S	C	A	L	A		I	S	O
R	I	G		H	T	A	W	A		G	N	U
				O	U	R		N	E	T	H	E
				I	N	C	I	T	E	D	R	A
M	O	O		E	R	G		S	C	H	W	A
P	A	P		S	A	L		K	A	H	N	
S	H	Y	E	R		Y	E	S		N	E	T
				R	E	E	K		A	N	O	D
F	R	I	D	A						R	A	W
L	O	G				D	O	W	N	R	I	G
O	O	H		E	T	H	E	L		Y	O	U
E	F	T		R	H	O	O	D	S		M	E

3-1	CRYPTOQUIP
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CY S KGSISDG PRSBTP
DR HDZP DY BISBTFTP
CR NFJ. ECHH EF FRJ WK

E C Z G S B I W O N M O W O O M ?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD SOME
 MEAN GUYS CALL A TECHNOLOGICALLY
 CHALLENGED PERSON? A NINCOMPUTER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals M

Be wary of strangers at the door

Dear Abby: You printed a letter from "Better Safe Than Sorry," a woman who was reluctant to open her door to solicitors. Her husband insisted that if she didn't open the door and respond face-to-face, she was being rude. You advised that no rule of etiquette demands a person open the door to a stranger, and the way to avoid "buying" anything is to not listen to the pitch.

I'd like to share what a police officer told us at our community watch meeting. He said that burglars often knock on doors to see if anyone is home. The way to handle a stranger at the door is to say loudly, "Honey, I'll get it," then ask the intruder, "Who is it?" Even if no one is with you, it gives the impression that you're not alone and vulnerable.

—Helpful Advice

Dear Abby:



While attending school at the University of California in San Diego in the late '80s, I was working on a report at the home of a classmate. One of his roommates answered the door to a couple of solicitors for so-called cheap magazine subscriptions. Once the door was opened, the "salesmen" pulled out weapons, tied us up, and robbed us of money and valuables. Dangerous! I'll say, I had a shotgun pointed at the back of my head.

—John M.

From Plano, Texas
Dear Helga: Thank you. I heard from many readers who also pointed out that a stranger at the door could be a criminal "causing the injury," or a prelude to a home invasion and assault.

Newport Beach, Calif.
Dear John M.: It could have been worse. Read on:

Dear Abby: When I was 12, a neighbor who lived only two doors down was severely beaten and raped after she "politely" opened her door to a stranger. She was lucky the man didn't kill her.

I used to have a "No Soliciting" sign on my door, but I continued to be bothered so I changed it. Now I have one that reads, "Don't sell me anything, give me anything, leave me anything or offer me anything. If you don't know me or my family, don't knock on my door and bother us!"

—Anna in Bakersfield
Dear Anna: I'd say you've covered all your bases.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69404, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Senders may write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DUNOB

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

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OXPRO

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

GINANA

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

DURECE

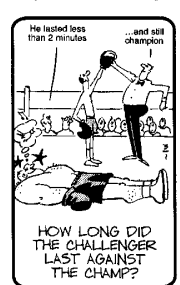
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

A: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

A: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(Answers tomorrow)

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: USURY DOUBT WINTRY MISFIT
Answer: When touring Germany, the ulcer sufferer took a — TURN FOR THE 'WURST'

Varying views on Viagra letter

Dear Annie: I need to comment on the letter from "Married to the Old Goat in Virginia," whose 70-year-old husband returned home with a prescription for Viagra. She was upset that she'd had no input into this decision. However, this misses a much larger, often overlooked issue.

Anytime one is prescribed a drug to treat erectile dysfunction, it should be accompanied by safer-sex education. Post-menopausal women think they don't need to use a condom since pregnancy is not an issue, but there has been an alarming increase in HIV infection in older people since these drugs became available.

The Canadian AIDS Society notes that 12 percent of all new HIV infections in Canada in the first half of 2003 were in the 50-plus age group. Thank you for the opportunity to share this vital information with your readers.

—Richard S. Ferri, Ph.D., ANP, Provincetown, Mass.

Dear Dr. Ferri: We appreciate your pointing out that everyone

Annie's Mailbox



needs to be careful. Our readers were up in arms over this subject. Here's a sampling: **From Omaha, Neb.:** My 55-year-old husband went in for his physical, and his doctor asked him if he wanted Viagra. There was no discussion of need. I think physicians do this because of perks from drug companies. I knew of a man who got Viagra samples so he could molest children. Doctors should not be offering it like candy.

Arizona: This woman sounds like she leads a dreary life and loves it. When I mentioned Viagra to my wife, her response was "Go get it!" She is 69, and I am 70.

Louisville, Ky.: My husband, age 64, got a prescription for Viagra. I didn't know about it for three months, but he told his girlfriend right away.

Midwest: I'm 56, and my

husband suffers from erectile dysfunction.

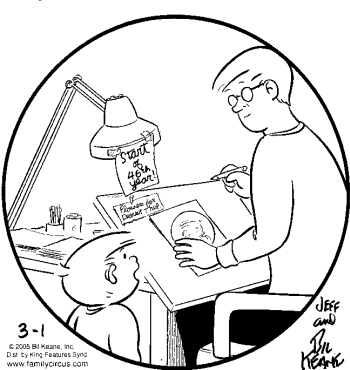
I got up the nerve to ask him about it, hoping he'd speak to his doctor. Instead, he told me he wasn't interested in sex anymore. I can't force him to try Viagra, so I am left out of his decision, which affects two people and a marriage.

Florida: My husband often talked about getting Viagra, and I kept saying he didn't need it. At 76, he has the stamina of a 35-year-old. Still, he came home with Viagra and asked to try it out. I have to say, don't knock it until you've tried it!

Colorado: Does that old biddy ask his permission to color her hair or use cosmetics to enhance her self-esteem? I would no more allow my wife to decide about my sexual dysfunction than I would give up reading glasses for her.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Mary Sargent, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



"When you're drawin' me, Daddy, remember I get taller every day."



Dennis the Menace



© Gary Larson

The Far Side



Non Sequiter



Al-Pro WR Muhammad agrees to join Bears

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — All-Pro receiver Muhsin Muhammad agreed to a six-year contract with the Chicago Bears one day after being released by the Carolina Panthers.

Muhammad was cut by Carolina on Friday because the Panthers did not want to pay a \$10 million roster bonus due on Tuesday. It didn't take long for him to find a new home, and the Bears will give him a \$12 million signing bonus, which is guaranteed money.

Sports briefs

"I don't think there is one person that's a Superstar in this sport that can totally revolutionize or change a team," he said. "But I have a lot of experience at what I do, and I'm going to bring that experience to Chicago. I'm going to bring my leadership skills and hopefully I influence enough people to make the team better."

Muhammad, who will be 32 in May, comes off a strong season despite the Panthers having spiraled from NFC champions to 7-9. He caught 93 passes, led the league with 1,405 yards and had 16 touchdowns as the main target after Steve Smith broke his leg.

"He's a guy who makes plays," Bears receivers coach Darrell Drake said on the team's Web site. "He just brings a lot of experience and savvy and a lot of intangibles to the organization that you just can't coach."

"I think it says that we're serious about improving our team and making a serious run," Bears coach Lovie Smith said. "We've identified some places where we thought we needed some more players. A receiver was one of those. To be able to get a receiver like this will definitely help you get some momentum going into the rest of free agency and, of course, the draft coming up."



All-Pro receiver Muhsin Muhammad agreed to a contract with the Chicago Bears one day after being released by Carolina.

Rocca wins World Cup slalom; Miller crashes out again

KRANJSKA GORA, Slovenia — Italy's Giorgio Rocca won a World Cup slalom Sunday in which Bode Miller crashed out of yet another race to further diminish his lead in the overall standings.

Austria's Benjamin Raich, Miller's main rival, was third, and is now just 31 points behind the American.

Rocca charged masterfully on the lower section of the course to finish in 1 minute, 34.95 seconds. Sweden's Andre Myhrer was a surprising second, 0.21 seconds behind, and Raich was 0.25 seconds back.

"It's fantastic," said Rocca, who was third after the opening leg.

Miller made another woeful showing in the slalom, straddling a gate at the top of the hill. It was the eighth slalom he had failed to finish this season, including one in this month's world championships. He was 14th after the opening leg.

"I had a bad weekend," said Miller, who also slid off the course in the giant slalom Saturday. "I didn't score a point, but my confidence is not dented. I still have the speed race."

Miller has 1,253 points and held a 191-point lead on Raich entering this weekend. But Raich collected 160 to move well within reach of the American's lead.

Miller must rediscover his form from early in the season in the upcoming speed races if he is to become the first American to win the overall title in 22 years. Phil Mahre, the only American to have won it, claimed the overall title in three consecutive years from 1981.

Kostelic wins combined on Olympic course

SAN SCARLO, Italy — Croatia's Janica Kostelic captured the only women's World Cup combined of the season Sunday, mastering the new course for next year's Olympics and ending Anja Paerson's two-race winning streak.

Kostelic posted the fastest time in the morning downhill leg and then cruised to victory in the single slalom run for a combined time of 2 minutes, 19.35 seconds.

Paerson, the Swede who won Friday's super giant slalom and secured her first downhill victory Saturday, finished 0.43 seconds behind. The big surprise came from Canada's Emily Brydon, previously known mostly as a speed specialist, who was third, 1.32 back.

The top Americans were Lindsey Kilow (fifth), Julia Mancuso (sixth) and Resi Stiegler (eighth).

Kostelic is the reigning Olympic champion in the discipline and also won the event in the last two world championships.

Federer tops Agassi to reach Dubai final

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Roger Federer routed Andre Agassi 6-3, 6-1 in the Dubai Open semifinals on Saturday and will play Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic in a title match for the third time this year.

The top-ranked Federer beat Agassi for the sixth straight time. This latest victory was even more impressive than the one in straight sets in last month's Australian Open quarterfinals. Agassi last defeated Federer in 2002.

"I have shown I can raise my game when it is important," Federer said. "I didn't expect anything like this because the way I was playing. I was really struggling with my rhythm and I thought it would be really hard against Agassi. But I pulled off a magnificent match."

Agassi said he made a few mistakes but conceded Federer was better.

"He was just too good in the second set," Agassi said. "I could have made a few less errors. But it was much more him out there tonight."

Report: Texas Tech admits it violated dietary supplement rules

FORT WORTH, Texas — Texas Tech acknowledged in a report to the NCAA that it violated regulations by purchasing dietary supplement products that aren't allowed to be given to athletes. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Sunday.

The report, which the newspaper obtained from the university under the Texas Public Information Act, acknowledges that 15 supplements that are not allowed were bought over a 30-month period. The report, signed by athletic director Gerald Myers and faculty athletics representative Robert Baker and sent to the NCAA on Feb. 18, says the supplements were bought by the school's former director of sports nutrition, Aaron Shelley.

Shelley was fired by Tech Feb. 23 after pleading guilty to money laundering.

DLs brimming with confidence

BY BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — In a very good year for defensive linemen, talent is not the only commodity. Confidence — some might say cockiness — is running high, too.

With a half-dozen defensive ends or tackles projected to go early, maybe they deserve to boast a little. Why not, when you can run fast, hit hard, even drop into pass coverage if asked.

And maybe the brashness is a necessity.

"You have to be going against those big boys," Southern Cal defensive tackle Shaun Cody said Saturday during the NFL combine. "You have to have that kind of swagger to you. They say I am undersized (about 290 pounds) so you have to have that sparkling to you. You have to be able to run around. That's just part of the personality of a defensive lineman."

It doesn't seem to be a turnoff to the pro scouts and personnel directors. If a guy can rush the passer or collapse the pocket or stuff the run, he is a top commodity. Last year, six college linemen went in the first round.

"I think it's important to have a confidence about yourself," said LSU end Marcus Spears, who en-

NFL Combine

tered the combine as one of the top-rated defensive linemen. "But you always have to remember that you have to be humble, and you have to show these guys what kind of person you really are."

"When I talk to these teams, they get me. They like it or they don't like it. I think you have to be you."

Cody, Spears, Wisconsin's Erasmus James and Antaj Havethorne, Georgia's David Pollack, Maryland's Shawne Merriman, Oklahoma's Dan Cody and Notre Dame's Justin Tucker are among the potential first-rounders. Iowa's Matt Roth, Virginia's Chris Canty, Florida State's Travis Johnson and Southern Cal's Mike Patterson also could draw early interest in the April draft.

"When you find a guy who can really get to the quarterback and disrupt an offense, he's attractive," New York Jets coach Herman Edwards said. "You want a difference-maker."

Pollack was one of those, and he spent four seasons at Georgia, meaning the NFL will get a mature player with a history of

sharp work in big games. Pollack set an SEC career record for sacks, surpassing Reggie White.

"There was no pressure at all," he said. "It's not something that crossed my mind. In my senior season, I wasn't concerned with stats."

He was, however, concerned with performance.

"We play in front of 92,000 people. Crazy fans," he said. "We're in the SEC, which in my opinion is the best conference. Every week you've got somebody you've got to get ready for. You have to get up for every game and that's something that's important."

Several teams at the top of the draft need help on the defensive line. The first three clubs — San Francisco, Miami and Cleveland — fit that category. So do Tennessee, Oakland and Dallas among the top 11 selectors.

But there are no teams that will ignore a stud who could be the next Julius Peppers or Richard Seymour.

Or Warren Sapp.

"I'm not over the top," Shaun Cody says. "I don't see myself as a Warren Sapp type. They're definitely extremes to it. Each personality is different, but the position in itself has that kind of personality."



Georgia defensive end David Pollack answers questions from the media during a news conference at the NFL Combine on Saturday.

But if a lineman gets shuffled to another spot, what happens? Tuck easily could wind up at linebacker, as could Merriman.

"I'm versatile," Tuck said. "I've played linebacker sometimes in different packages we had. Either way, I am going to be a steal in the draft."

Merriman, known as "Lights Out" for his hard hits, claimed pretty much the same thing. With

a smile as wide as Tuck's — or that of Cody, Spears or Pollack — he displayed that same self-assurance as his peers.

"I think I can play any linebacker, middle linebacker, outside, whatever they name me to play I can play it," Merriman said. "It all depends on what they project me as and what they need for the team, and I can do it. I'll be able to fill those shoes."

Marion's black on Nowitzki's sales Suns

By JAIME ARON
The Associated Press

DALLAS — One All-Star drives to the rim, seemingly headed for a winning basket at the buzzer. Then another All-Star comes flying at him from behind, takes a big swing with his right arm and the ball comes out strangely, clanging into the rim.

Clean block or a foul?

Officials decided that Shawn Marion got all but, so his defensive play on Dirk Nowitzki gave the Phoenix Suns a 124-123 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

"I didn't touch him, so they couldn't call a foul," Marion said.

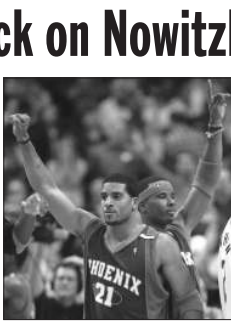
Or could they?

"It should be a one-point win for us, then, but it's not," Mavs coach Don Nelson said.

Dallas led by six with 1:46 left, then Phoenix closed with a 7-0 run, capped by Joe Johnson's 16-footer with 47 seconds left. The Mavericks took one last chance, and they perfectly executed an inbound play, getting a screen from newly acquired Keith Van Horn to free Nowitzki on a drive to the rim.

But the speedy, high-jumping Marion recovered in time to knock the ball away. He also got the rebound, preserving Phoenix's second straight winover NBA assists leader Steve Nash (strained left hamstring) after being 0-3 throughout this season. With San Antonio tonio losing Saturday night, the Suns (43-13) moved a half-game ahead of the Spurs for the best record in the NBA.

When time expired, Phoenix coach Mike D'Antoni led a celebration-filled march to the locker room. Dallas guard Jerry Tatum dropped to the court and buried his head, while Nelson and owner Mark Cuban ran to



Suns forwards Jim Jackson (21) and Quentin Richardson celebrate their win over the Mavs.

the officials. Cuban ordered the replay shown on the overhead video board and fans boomed a play that seemed too close to definitively call either way.

"I was wide open for a play to win the game. I tried to dunk it, but somehow he got a hand on it," said Nowitzki, who had 26 points and 16 rebounds. "I thought I got hit on the hand and the head, but they didn't call it."

Nowitzki lamented the game even coming down to that play, noting that he missed a layup with 30 seconds left. Dallas also missed two long jumpers at the start of Phoenix's game-winning rally, which also gave the Suns a 2-1 victory over the Mavericks in the series.

Nelson was less diplomatic about how it ended.

"It just doesn't seem fair," he said. "Phoenix's (Amare) Stoudemire got eight straight calls when he had the ball, and we clearly got fouled on the last play and didn't get the call for our best player."

Stoudemire, who led the Suns with 33 points and 10 rebounds, took 10 free throws in the fourth quarter. As a team, Dallas took six.

The Mavs also noted that officials had been calling ticky-tack fouls earlier in the quarter, and they pointed to their lack of reaction to the loose ball as evidence they were sure Marion whacked Nowitzki.

The loss ended Dallas' six-game winning streak, its longest of the season. The Mavs also lost for the first time this season when leading at the start of the fourth quarter; they had been 28-0.

Quentin Richardson scored 26 for Phoenix and Michael added 25 and 13 rebounds. Leandro Barbosa, who replaced Nash, scored just six after putting up a season-high 22 the previous game. Johnson scored 18.

Terry, who was scoreless in 15 minutes his previous game, led Dallas with 27 points and then put up a stretch of three 12s in 21, ending a five-game streak with at least 20.

Both teams shot more than 58 percent in the first half, with Dallas coming out ahead 71-68. The Mavs had a stretch of 12 baskets on 14 shots in the second quarter.

Then Phoenix opened the third quarter making eight straight. But Dallas answered with a 14-2 run that took it from five down to five up.

Van Horn, acquired Thursday from Milwaukee, tied the game at 113 with a driving layup then put the Mavericks back in a rebound and putback after Terry stole the inbound pass. Dallas stretched the lead to 123-117 on a layup by Nowitzki — then didn't score again.

Bucks end Seattle's win streak

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Michael Redd scored 35 points and played tough defense on Ray Allen, leading the Milwaukee Bucks to a 92-73 victory over the Seattle SuperSonics on Sunday.

Desmond Mason, a former member of the Sonics, had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and Joe Smith added 16 points as the Bucks ended Seattle's three-game winning streak and limited the Sonics to 29.4 percent shooting, a season low, from the floor.

The Sonics had their lowest point total of the season, six points less than their Nov. 17 game at New Jersey.

Allen, a fan favorite, had more than six seasons with Milwaukee.

NBA's "roundup" scored 16 points on 4-for-16 shooting in his first game at the Bradley Center since being traded on Feb. 20, 2003, by then general manager Ernie Grunfeld to Larry Payton and Desmond Mason. Kevin Ollie, Murray and a draft pick were also dealt to Seattle in a move that general manager Larry Harshbarger said was the most devastating trades in Bucks history.

Allen missed last season's return to Milwaukee while recovering from a right ankle injury.

Seattle, which has the fourth-best record in the league, struggled from the start. The Sonics' previous shooting low was 22.5 percent (31-for-85) at Houston five days ago.

In Saturday's games: **Spurs 84, Grizzlies 82:** Earl Watson hit a 14-foot fadeaway jumper with 17 seconds left, and Shane Battier made a steal on the final play to give visiting Memphis a win.

The Spurs lost for only the second time in 26 home games this season, while the Grizzlies snapped a four-game losing streak.

Laurenz Wright led Memphis with 19 points, Mike Miller had 12 and Watson 11.

Tim Duncan led the Spurs with 27 points and 19 rebounds, while Parker had 16 points.

Knicks 90, Pacers 79: Stephon Marbury scored 21 points to lead host New York to its second straight victory.

Jamal Crawford added 17 points, and Kurt Thomas had 16 points and seven rebounds for the Knicks, who took consecutive games off because the X-ray machine at the Air Canada Centre was not working. He'll have X-rays on Tuesday.

Rose scored 10 of Toronto's last 12 points and the Raptors closed out the game on a 12-3 run. The 11-year veteran injured his right hand diving for a ball in the final seconds. He couldn't get X-rays on his non-shooting hand after the game because the X-ray machine at the Air Canada Centre was not working. He'll have X-rays on Tuesday.

Rose scored 10 of Toronto's last 12 points and the Raptors closed out the game on a 12-3 run. The 11-year veteran injured his right hand diving for a ball in the final seconds. He couldn't get X-rays on his non-shooting hand after the game because the X-ray machine at the Air Canada Centre was not working. He'll have X-rays on Tuesday.

Bulls 94, Bobcats 90: Ben Gordon sank a three-pointer that sealed visiting Chicago's victory over the Bulls in their college roommate, Emeke Okafor. Okafor and Gordon were teammates on Connecticut's national title team last year and the Bulls and 3 picks in the NBA draft and are leading Rookie of the Year contenders this season. Losses for the Bulls ended at 19.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference			
Atlantic Division			
Boston	W	L	Pct
Philadelphia	29	47	.373
New York	28	48	.366
Toronto	24	52	.316
Washington	21	55	.278
Charlotte	11	65	.141
Southeast Division			
Orlando	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	21	54	.281
Washington	11	64	.147
Charlotte	11	64	.147
Central Division			
San Antonio	W	L	Pct
Cleveland	23	52	.305
Memphis	22	53	.295
Indiana	22	53	.295
Milwaukee	23	42	.351

Western Conference			
Southwest Division			
San Antonio	W	L	Pct
Dallas	42	17	.704
Houston	38	21	.643
New Orleans	38	21	.643
Northwest Division			
Seattle	38	21	.643
Denver	29	47	.382
Portland	26	49	.344
Utah	27	37	.421

Pacific Division			
Phoenix	47	17	.735
Los Angeles	37	27	.576
Lakers	29	29	.500
Golden State	18	26	.408
Sunday's games			
Miami 101, Orlando 98			
New York 90, Indiana 79			
Memphis 94, San Antonio 82			
Dallas 124, Phoenix 123			
Toronto 108, Cleveland 98			
New Jersey 104, Cleveland 98			
Atlanta 89, Seattle 73			
Utah at Houston			
San Antonio at Washington			
Denver at New Orleans			
Boston at Phoenix			
Portland at Portland			
Detroit at Golden State			
San Antonio at Chicago			

Monday's games			
San Antonio at Cleveland			
Lakers at New York			
Golden State at Dallas			
Lakers at Clippers at Utah			
Tuesday's games			
Seattle at Indiana			
Portland at Charlotte			
Golden State at Memphis			
Phoenix at Milwaukee			
Houston at Chicago			
San Antonio at Portland			
Detroit at Portland			

Saturday Heat 101, Magic 98

ORLANDO — Jim Jackson scored 21 points, and Quentin Richardson added 20, leading the Phoenix Suns to a 124-123 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

Bulls 94, Bobcats 90

CHICAGO — Dennis Rodman scored 17 points, and Scottie Pippen added 16, leading the Chicago Bulls to a 94-90 victory over the Charlotte Bobcats on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

Knicks 90, Pacers 79

INDIANA — Jason Richardson scored 21 points, and Reggie Miller added 16, leading the Indiana Pacers to a 79-90 victory over the New York Knicks on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

Kings 101, Warriors 97

SACRAMENTO — Tim Lincecum scored 21 points, and Jason Richardson added 16, leading the Sacramento Kings to a 101-97 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

Grizzlies 84, Spurs 82

MEMPHIS — Steve Nash scored 21 points, and Steve Nash added 16, leading the Memphis Grizzlies to a 84-82 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

Suns 124, Mavericks 123

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki scored 21 points, and Dirk Nowitzki added 16, leading the Dallas Mavericks to a 123-124 victory over the Phoenix Suns on Saturday night in a game that was intense and exciting from start to finish.

Rose passes dad on NBA scoring list

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Jalen Rose knew he'd play well after learning he needed just 10 points to pass his father, Jalen Rose Sr., on the NBA's career scoring list.

Rose scored 26 points, including eight straight late in the fourth quarter Sunday, and the Toronto Raptors extended their winning streak to three games with a 108-102 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers.

"I woke up today and somebody sent me an e-mail and told me if I score 10 points I'll pass my biological father," said Rose, whose father, Jimmy Walker, had 11,655 career points.

"That's what I used as motivation in today's game."

Rose doesn't have a relationship with his father, who was an All-Star who left Jalen and his mother.

Rose scored 10 of Toronto's last 12 points and the Raptors closed out the game on a 12-3 run. The 11-year veteran injured his right hand diving for a ball in the final seconds. He couldn't get X-rays on his non-shooting hand after the game because the X-ray machine at the Air Canada Centre was not working. He'll have X-rays on Tuesday.

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Carter, Kidd finally get help in fourth

BY TOM CANAVAN

The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Vince Carter and Jason Kidd had no problem handling the old triangle-and-two defense that helped the Cleveland Cavaliers win a 21-point deficit.

The New Jersey Nets' two leaders just needed some fourth-quarter help on Sunday, and Travis Best finally gave it to them after missing his first six shots.

Carter had 34 points and 11 rebounds and Kidd added 14 points and 12 assists, including one on a backbreaking three-pointer by Best with 1:13 left, as the Nets held off LeBron James and the Cavaliers 104-98.

"It was the weirdest thing. I hadn't seen the triangle-and-two since high school," said Carter, who hit 10 of 18 shots in notching his 15th straight 20-point game. "I got out of where a bit, but we kept fighting and stuck it out."

Down by 21 in the second quarter and 20 midway through the third, the Cavaliers finally woke up and cut the Nets' lead to eight points entering the final quarter.

New Jersey missed its first seven shots and former Net Lucious Harris tied the game at 83 with a jumper with 8:38 to go.

Nenad Krstic, who had 15 points, sandwiched two free throws around a jumper by Carter to give New Jersey an 87-83 lead.

Every time Cleveland got close, Carter, who played the final 8:50 with five fouls, and Kidd came through in sending the Cavaliers to their sixth straight road loss.

A three-pointer by Carter with 5:22 to go gave New Jersey a 90-85 advantage. A 5-footer by McNislee later cut the margin to 92-89, but Kidd nailed a three-pointer with 3:48 to go.

An tip-in by Zydrunas Ilgauskas pulled Cleveland within 95-93 with 2:06 to play.

However, Carter hit a fade-away jumper and Best made his only basket after being set up once again by Kidd, who added four free throws and a steal in the final 45.9 seconds.

We had a lot of open shots, but we just didn't make them. Shots and let them get back in the game," said Kidd, who also had eight rebounds.

Short: Webber welcomed by Philly fans in debut

SHORT, FROM BACK PAGE

"When I hit my first shot and they reacted that way, it was like: OK, this is going to be my job. It felt great," Webber said. "I'm just disappointed I couldn't bring a win home."

Philadelphia began the night just one game behind Boston for first place in the Atlantic Division, and there was a sense in this city that making the playoffs might merely be the first step of what could be a deep march through the postseason if Webber and Iverson can blend.

"I'm looking to the challenge to see how we connect," Webber said. "I think it's definitely Allen's team because he's proven it to the city, the community and the team what he brings to the table. But I think now it's going to be our team because of the way we handled it. I am going to work together."

Iverson is no stranger to being paired with scorers who were supposed to work well with him, but none of the players the 76ers have imported — from Jerry Stackhouse to Larry Hughes to Keith Van Horn to Glenn Robinson to Toni Kukoc — has ever fit Allen's role.

Part of the blame can be pointed at Iverson for his tendency to dominate the ball to such an extent that those second scorers never had enough offensive opportunities to be consistent threats. This time will be different, the Sixers hope, because of Webber's ability to pass the ball

and run the offense through the high-low post.

Webber said the contrast between Sacramento's schemes and Philadelphia's offense was "like the difference between curative and shorthand. It's just crazy, but I will make an adjustment."

For the Kings, concerns over Webber's recovery from microfracture surgery on his knee. "There's no way I'm 100 percent," he said Saturday — along with the \$62 million remaining on his contract were two of the other reasons behind their decision to trade one of the game's most versatile big men.

The game was close throughout, the Kings coming back from an 11-point third-quarter deficit and going ahead 96-92 on a basket by Williamson before Webber hit a jumper to make it a two-point game.

Samuel Dalembert missed two free throws, and Igoudala air-balled a three-pointer after Aaron McKee grabbed an offensive rebound. Another chance to tie came when Igoudala was fouled on a three-point attempt with 7:2 seconds left, but he missed the first before making the next two.

Two free throws by Cuttino Mobley made it 101-98, and Iverson hit the first of two with 3:4 seconds left, before intentionally missing the second. Three members of the Kings helped Webber off the floor after he missed.

"I told Chris that the rebound was going to come loose," Iverson said. "We just couldn't finish it."

Bonds takes first swings

The Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Barry Bonds took a few swings in the batting cage at the San Francisco Giants' training complex Saturday, facing live pitching earlier than the club expected.

Bonds, who underwent arthroscopic knee surgery Jan. 31, took his first cuts of spring training against hitting coach Joe Lefebvre.

The seven-time National League MVP decided the club's plan to hit off a tee, preferring to face real pitching.

"I knew he wasn't going to wait that long," Giants manager Felipe Alou said. "I knew the guy was going to be swinging the bat sooner than expected."

After Bonds underwent surgery, trainer Stan Conte said Bonds should be able to return for the final two weeks of spring training. The Giants haven't moved up that timetable yet, but Bonds usually is a quick healer.

The 40-year-old Bonds is third on the majors' career homers list with 703, trailing only Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron (755). He won his seventh MVP award last season with 45 homers, 101 RBIs and a major league-record 232 walks.

Red Sox: Curt Schilling made progress Saturday in his second bullpen session of spring training and would start on Opening Day for the Boston Red Sox.

But manager Terry Francona doesn't think there's any reason to rush him.

"The 40-year-old Bonds is third on the majors' career homers list with 703, trailing only Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron (755). He won his seventh MVP award last season with 45 homers, 101 RBIs and a major league-record 232 walks."

Schilling underwent surgery in November after the Red Sox beat the New York Yankees in the AL championship series and then the St. Louis Cardinals in a four-game sweep in the World Series.

He won Game 6 of the ALCS and Game 2 of the World Series after a tendon in his ankle, which had been slipping out of place, was sutured to his skin.

In his first bullpen session last Thursday, Schilling threw 17 pitches and said his ankle wasn't causing him pain.

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San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds warms up during spring training on Saturday.

The Red Sox open the season on April 3 against the Yankees in New York.

Cardinals: Jason Istringhausen, who tied for the National League lead with 47 saves last year, agreed to a three-year contract extension with the St. Louis Cardinals.

Istringhausen tied Armando Benitez of the Florida Marlins for the save lead to help the Cardinals win their first pennant in 17 years. He tied the team single-season save record set by Lee Smith in 1991 despite playing much of the season with a painful hip condition that required surgery in November.

Istringhausen agreed to a new three-year deal that replaces the final year of his current deal. The contract will run through the 2007 season for a total of \$12.5 million. Istringhausen agreed to a new three-year deal that replaces the final year of his current deal. The contract will run through the 2007 season for a total of \$12.5 million.

In three seasons with the team, he has 101 saves and his total of 168 saves over the past five seasons is fourth-best in the major leagues.

Istringhausen had been in the final year of a four-year contract he signed before the 2002 season. That contract had included an option for 2006.

Dodgers: Norihiro Nakamura is expected to report to the Los Angeles Dodgers next week after clearing up his visa problems.

Manager Jim Tracy said he

was told the Japanese infielder will arrive at the team's spring training facility in Vero Beach, Fla., late Tuesday.

"He'll get a very good look in spring training," Tracy said before Saturday's workout.

Nakamura, an eight-time All-Star in Japan, signed a minor league contract with the Dodgers earlier this month. He has a career .263 average with 307 homers in his 13 years' career with the Kintetsu Buffaloes of the Japanese Pacific League. He spent time working out with the Dodgers during spring training last year.

He is expected to compete for playing time at third base with Jose Valentin and Antonio Perez. Tracy also said closer Eric Gagne, who sustained a mild sprain of a ligament in his left knee Thursday, was continuing with conditioning work that is normal and hopefully he back on the field through Tuesday or Wednesday.

Blue Jays: Toronto got in its first full-squad outdoor workout after being rained out of Friday's game.

Manager John Gibbons was happy about the full workout because he knows showers are in the forecast for Sunday.

"It'll be a hot game having to throw inside that on Thursday," said Gibbons, "It's OK though, as long as they throw."

Right-hander Billy Koch made his first trip to the mound to face live hitters.

"I'm glad I didn't hit anybody," said Koch who returned to Toronto after he was a first round pick in 1996. "Felt good to see a hitter in there, I was just getting a feel seeing the hitter in there. You can throw a bullpen session all day long and you won't know where it changes things a little bit."

Orioles: Sammy Sosa was victimized by an elaborate practical joke by manager Lee Mazzilli.

Mazzilli gathered the entire team at the end of a long practice and told the players they would be running the bases in rapid succession. He assigned Sosa to begin the relay, telling him to sprint to second base as if he hit a double.

Sosa did it, then turned around to see no one behind him.

Everyone laughed and walked off the field, leaving Sosa alone in the middle of the diamond.

"You got me!" he said with a broad grin. As he walked toward the dugout, Sosa got a big hug from Mazzilli just past first base.

Matsui doesn't expect extension deal soon

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — New York Yankees left fielder Hideki Matsui expects talks about a possible contract extension to be completed during spring training.

Arn Tellem, Matsui's agent, and Yankees general manager Brian Cashman started negotiations Saturday.

Matsui is due \$8 million in 2005, the final season of a \$21 million, three-year deal. He has a clause in his contract that re-

quires the Yankees to put him on waivers unless a new contract is agreed to by Nov. 15.

"Probably not going to be anything that's going to happen prior to the beginning of the season," Matsui said Sunday. "My original plan was to play through my free years and then decide where to go from there. That was my original plan when I came here, and that still is."

The 30-year-old outfielder was a three-time MVP in Japan's Cen-

tral League before joining the Yankees in 2003. He hit .286 with 31 homers and 108 RBIs last season after batting .287 with 16 homers and 106 RBIs in his first season in New York.

"He is going to stay here, we want to keep him, so you have to assume that it will get done," Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

Matsui again said he has no current interest in leaving the team.

"Right now, no," Matsui said. "I don't have any thoughts like that."

UNLV comes back late to beat Falcons

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Romel Beck had 20 points and 10 rebounds Saturday night and Michael Umeh added 15 points as UNLV beat Air Force 63-57, the Rebels' fifth straight victory.

UNLV (14-11, 6-6 Mountain West Conference) took control with an 18-2 run midway through the second half, including two three-point plays by Umeh. A three-pointer by Beck with 5:10 to play capped the rally and gave UNLV a 53-46 lead.

The Rebels held off the Falcons thereafter, thanks in part to Odaty Blankson's three-point shot just as the 35-second shot clock was expiring and a 5-for-5 effort at the foul line by Ricky Morgan. Blankson had nine points and six rebounds for the Rebels.

Air Force (16-11, 7-4) made only three field goals in the final 12:13 in losing for the fourth time in five games. The Falcons, who at one time were challenging Utah for the Mountain West title, have fallen to third, a game behind second-place New Mexico.

Antione Hood led Air Force with 17 points and Nick Welch had 15 points, six assists and six rebounds.

Two three-pointers by Welch helped Air Force open an 18-9 lead with 7:16 left in the half on the way to a 30-24 halftime edge.



Air Force's Jake Burtch tries to keep UNLV's Ricky Morgan from getting off a shot during Saturday night's game. UNLV won 63-57.

Wake rolls in second half to rout Virginia

BY JENNA FRYER

The Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Justin Gray scored 20 points to keep No. 6 Wake Forest in contention for the Atlantic Coast Conference title with a 90-68 victory over Virginia on Sunday.

Chris Paul and Eric Williams each scored 17 points for the Demon Deacons, who improved to 15-0 at home this season. Wake Forest (24-4, 11-3) is one-half game behind No. 2 North Carolina, which played at Maryland on Sunday night.

Wake Forest holds the tiebreaker over Carolina, and can earn the top seed in the ACC tournament by winning its final two games and Carolina losing a game.

Vytas Danelius was 5-for-5 from the field and scored 13 points for the Deacons, who emptied their bench late in the game and were chastised by the officials for raucously cheering when junior John Buck dunked with just seconds to go.

Devin Smith had 22 points and J.R. Reynolds and T.J. Bannister 15 each for Virginia (13-12, 4-10).

Wake Forest played through a spirited first half that saw Paul turning after receiving a few early elbows from Virginia freshman Sean Singletary. Paul

stopped at one point and stood in the lane, hands on his hips and a scowl on his face, as he glared in the direction of the officials.

The tension dates to their Jan. 27 meeting, which was marked by physical play and ended with Paul getting knocked to the floor late on a hard foul.

Not much had changed, as Paul was again knocked down when Elton Brown shoved him from behind after a whistle late in the first half. Paul lay face down on the court, then banged his fists in anger before getting up.

When Brown wasn't called for a technical foul, Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser erupted on the sidelines. Twice told to calm down by the officials, Prosser was given a technical — his first of the season — with 6:19 left in the half.

Reynolds made two free throws for Virginia to end a 5-minute scoring drought for the Cavaliers and cut Wake's lead to 28-19.

Paul got his revenge on the floor by twice freezing Singletary as he blew by him for a layup. He also embarrassed Smith, when he snatched the ball away from him and raced to the hoop for a dunk.

Wake led 44-31 at halftime but Virginia cut it to 46-41 before the Demon Deacons pulled it together behind senior Taron Doney, who ran the court and helped the Deacons pull away.

Hoosiers work overtime to knock off Michigan St.

The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Bracey Wright scored 32 points and D.J. White added 17, including the tying basket in the closing seconds of regulation and the go-ahead basket in overtime, to lead Indiana to a 78-74 victory over No. 10 Michigan State on Sunday.

White, playing despite foul trouble most of the game, scored with 17 seconds left to tie it 64-64. Paul Davis put Michigan State ahead for the first time at 66-64 early in overtime, but he fouled out shortly thereafter and the Hoosiers (14-11, 9-5 Big Ten) ran off eight straight points. Roderick Wilton hit a free throw. White had two baskets and Wright's three-pointer with 42 seconds left put the game out of reach.

The Hoosiers scored their last six points on free throws over the final 26 seconds and led 78-72 before Chris Hill scored at the buzzer for Michigan State (20-5, 11-3).

No. 20 Wisconsin 64, Ohio St. 56: Alando Tucker scored 19 points and Wisconsin relied on defense and three-point shooting to beat Ohio State.

Mike Wilkinson added 14 points for the Badgers (18-7, 9-5 Big Ten), who remained tied for third in the league with Indiana.

Terence Dials had 20 points to lead Ohio State (18-10, 7-7), which lost its second straight game after winning six of seven.

After going 7-for-9 from the field and scoring 16 points in the

Men's Top 25 Roundup

rst half, Dials made his first shot of the second half and then didn't get another one over the final 18½ minutes.

Ohio State got no closer than eight points in the second half.

Wisconsin came in permitting opponents to shoot a Big Ten-leading 31 percent from three-point range. The Badgers limited Ohio State to 23 percent (5-for-22).

Meanwhile, the Badgers were 6-for-7 on three-pointers in the opening half while building a 37-27 lead and finished 8-for-15.

No. 23 Villanova 67, Georgetown 56: In Washington, D.C., Allan Ray scored 18 points and Will Sheridan had a season-high 14 points and nine rebounds as Villanova won its fifth straight.

Kyle Lowry added 12 points and seven assists for the Wildcats (19-6, 9-5 Big East), who held Georgetown (16-9, 8-6) without a field goal for 7½ minutes in the second half.

Villanova took sole possession of fourth place in the Big East and likely is assured an NCAA tournament berth. Georgetown, meanwhile, has lost three straight and likely needs at least two more victories to have a realistic shot at its first NCAA bid since 2001.

In Saturday games:

No. 11 Louisville 53, Memphis 44: At Memphis, Tenn., Taquean

Dean scored 14 points and Francisco Garcia added 12 on a rough shooting night for both teams.

The Cardinals (24-4, 12-2 Conference USA) used a 12-0 run midway through the second half to take the lead. Although the Tigers did come to tie it once, they couldn't regain the lead as the Cardinals' Juan Palacios scored six straight points and blocked a shot down the stretch.

Darius Washington scored 14 for Memphis (16-12, 9-5), which shot 19.6 percent for the game and hit only one of its 23 shots from outside the arc. Leading scorer Rodney Carney was scoreless, missing all nine of his shots, including four three-pointers.

No. 17 Connecticut 73, No. 18 Pittsburgh 64: At Pittsburgh, Marcus Williams scored 13 points and put Connecticut ahead to stay with a layup off the glass with 3½ minutes left to keep the Huskies in contention for the Big East regular-season title.

Despite Chevon Troutman's 22 points and 12 rebounds in his final regular-season home game, Pitt (18-7, 8-6) lost its third consecutive game.

Rudy Gray scored 17 and Denham Brown had 16 as the Huskies (19-6, 11-3) prevented No. 3 Boston College (23-2, 12-2) from clinching the Big East regular-season title.

The victory was No. 699 for coach Jim Calhoun, whose first chance at becoming the 19th coach to reach 700 comes Wednesday against Georgetown.



Michigan State's Matt Trannon is fouled by Indiana's Pat Ewing Jr. during the second half on Sunday. Indiana won 78-74 in overtime.

No. 19 Pacific 75, Cal State Northridge 61: At Northridge, Calif., Christian Maraker and Terry Newton each scored 15 points and Pacific won its 19th straight game.

Johnny Gray shot 4-for-7 from long range on the way to 14 points and David Doubleday added 10 points and four assists.

The Tigers (23-2, 16-0 Big West) have the nation's second-longest winning streak behind No. 1 Illinois (28-0).

No. 25 Nevada 76, Fresno State 63: At Fresno, Calif., Nick Pazarke scored 28 points and Mo Charlo keyed a big second-half run to help Nevada win its eighth straight and clinch at least a share of the Western Athletic Conference title.

The Wolf Pack (22-5, 13-2 WAC), ranked for the first time ever, haven't lost since falling 66-63 to Fresno State on Jan. 29.

Javane Coleman had 18 points to lead Fresno State (14-12, 8-8), which has lost six of eight.



Kyle Busch climbs into his car before qualifying for the Auto Club 500. Busch is the youngest driver to win the pole for a Nextel Cup race.

Martin adds 47th win to Busch Series haul

The Associated Press

FONTANA, Calif. — Mark Martin added to his record Busch Series victory total on Saturday, pulling away from Kevin Harvick at California Speedway for No. 47.

Martin, a longtime star in NASCAR's top stock car series, was dominant. He led 102 of the 150 laps, including the last 34. He easily held off Harvick in an eighth-lap sprint on the 2-mile oval after the last of eight caution flags, driving a Roush Racing Ford across the finish line about 10 car lengths ahead of Harvick's Chevrolet.

"I knew that Harvick was really fast on the restart," Martin said. "I knew I had my hands full, that Kevin was going to do everything he could to win that race. But we just had an awesome car today."

Busch regular Shane Hmiel finished third, followed by Clint Bowyer, 19-year-old Reed Sorenson, in only his second Busch race, and Carl Edwards.

Martin came back last season from a self-imposed three-year Busch Series retirement and ran five races, picking up his 46th victory in the steppingstone series. It was his first Busch victory since 2000 at Darlington, S.C.

Saturday's event began in daylight but a series of yellow flags and a 26-minute stoppage for a rain shower forced it to end under the lights. That made for constantly changing conditions on the track.

"I was real concerned about finishing his race at night, but this car didn't seem to mind. It was great," Martin said.

Harvick, another Cup regular, settled for his second straight runner-up finish in a Busch race.

"He got away from me toward the end, and there was nothing I could do," Harvick said. "Too little, too late, but I'm glad to see Mark win on his farewell tour."

Martin, who will retire from the Nextel Cup series at the end of the season, is the latest "Buschwhacker" — Cup regulars who drive limited schedules in Busch — to beat the Busch regulars.

Racing roundup

Cup star Tony Stewart won the opener a week ago in Daytona, beating Harvick for his first Busch victory. Stewart started from the pole Saturday in the same car, owned by Harvick's wife, Delana, and was in contention until a flat tire slowed him in the last few laps. He wound up 29th, the last car on the lead lap.

Busch champion Martin Rousey finished 36th, trailing a tire and spinning late in the race.

Busch and Vickers make up youngest front row ever

FONTANA, Calif. — NASCAR began a new era of qualifying Saturday with new rules and the youngest pole winner in the history of stock-car racing's top series. Rookie Kyle Busch, 19, claimed his first career pole in only his eighth Nextel Cup Series start, just beating out 21-year-old Hendrick Motorsports teammate Brian Vickers, who grabbed the outside spot on the front row for Sunday's Auto Club 500 at California Speedway.

Busch won the pole in style, with a lap of 1:18.245 mph, breaking the track record of 1:17.432 set in April 2002 by Ryan Newman.

Vickers, who works out of the same race shop, was also faster than the old mark at 1:17.740.

Referring to team owner Rick Hendrick, the younger Busch said, "It's definitely a great opportunity Mr. H. has given us. I'm glad we could do this for him."

"It's definitely an awesome opportunity for the both of us on the front row like that," added Busch, younger brother of reigning Cup champion Kurt Busch. "It's just a great opportunity for us to help both our teams excel. We've got a pole now — all we need is a win."

Donald Thomas was 20 when he won a pole in NASCAR's top series in November 1952 at Lakeview Speedway in Atlanta. Vickers also won his first pole last year at age 20.

Toms earns biggest rout in history of Match Play

By DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

CARLSBAD, Calif. — David Toms played some of his best golf to reach the finals of the Match Play Championship.

Then he got even better. Toms delivered the most dominant performance in the seven-year history of this fickle tournament, winning eight out of nine holes Sunday to put away Chris DiMarco before lunch, then pouring it on in the afternoon for the largest margin of victory ever in the 36-hole final at La Costa Resort.

"This whole round was kind of a blur," Toms said. "I don't know that I've ever felt that way in an event."

The score was 6 and 5, and it could have been much worse. Toms was 9 up at one point and had a chance to end the match on the ninth hole. DiMarco played some of his best golf when it no longer mattered, saving par from thick rough behind the ninth green and making three straight birdies, but all that did was spare ABC Sports more dead time in its telecast.

Tournament officials followed the final four holes of the match with the Walter Hagen Trophy and a podium in a cart, waiting to set up the trophy presentation on whatever green the match was decided.

Toms earned \$1.3 million for his 11th career PGA Tour victory, and first World Golf Championship title.

His record in the Match Play Championship improved to 18-second only to the 21-4 mark by two-time defending champion Tiger Woods.

"I've won a few tournaments along the way, but I never felt this at ease on the golf course," Toms said. "Not that it was easy. I just felt I could hit the shot no matter what it was. I have no idea how to explain it."

Toms lost to Woods 2 and 1 in the final match two years ago



David Toms pumps his fist after making the final putt that gave him a 6 and 5 victory over Chris DiMarco in the World Match Play Championship on Sunday.

when he fell four holes down in the morning round and fought just to extend the match to the 35th hole.

He gave DiMarco no such hope. DiMarco still looked like he was in a state of shock when Toms holed an 8-foot birdie putt on the 13th hole to end the match. "They got a good champion," said DiMarco, whose \$750,000 runner-up check was the largest of his career.

The match was even through nine holes until Toms went to the other tier, making birdie on five of the next six holes to take a 6-up lead after the morning round, the largest ever at the halfway point of the final.

By then, the sparse gallery at La Costa knew this was over. At times, it looked as though DiMarco knew, too.

As they stood on the first tee to start the second round, someone in the grandstand mentioned it was an all-SEC final — DiMarco (Florida) and Toms (LSU) competed against each other in college. As DiMarco bent over to

stick his tee in the ground, he said under his breath, "Yeah, like when LSU punned us a couple of years ago," referring to a 36-7 victory over the Gators in 2002 at the Swamp.

Even a few tournament sponsors started to ask how ABC would fill the rest of its broadcast. Thank goodness it still had a consolation match to show between Retief Goosen and Ian Poulter, and they did their best. Both birdied five of the first six holes on the back nine. Long after the trophy presentation, Goosen finally won the 20th hole.

After winning on the 18th hole in the first two rounds, Toms simply had no match the rest of the week.

The former PGA champion ruled through big-hitters Phil Mickelson and Adam Scott in consecutive rounds, then beat Poulter in the semifinals with some of the greatest golf ever seen at La Costa. A birdie-eagle-eagle to take a lead, no approach shot more than 12 feet away over his final eight holes.

And somehow, he managed to save his best for the final match.

Toms had only four bogeys in six rounds, and trailed only 10 of the 116 holes he played.

The final match actually was tight for a while, and DiMarco was firmly in control in the early stages. But it was not just about seven holes, but still had only a 1-up lead.

If there was a key moment — had it been such a blowout — it came in the seventh hole in the morning round. DiMarco already was 1 up when he hit his approach to within 3 feet for a sure birdie.

Toms hit his shot just about, and made the sliding putt to halve the hole.

Toms was 2 up when he knocked a 15-foot birdie putt some 5 feet past the hole on No. 12, miss it, and momentum probably swings in DiMarco's favor. But it was as pure as just about every stroke he made all week-end, and the next thing DiMarco knew, the match was over.

Rosales holds off Wie in SBS Open

The Associated Press

KAHUKUA, Hawaii — Michelle Wie made a strong run at her first LPGA Tour victory, finishing two strokes behind Jennifer Rosales, who went wire to wire for a

ry in the season-opening SBS Open.

Wie started the day five strokes behind Rosales, then shot her third straight 70 to tie the Korean (72) for second at 210. Playing on her home island of Oahu, the 15-year-old Wie was trying to become the youngest golfer to win an LPGA event. She had to settle for her best finish in 18 starts.

Rosales shot a 1-over-par 73 and picked up her second tour vic-

tory by finishing at 8-under 208 on the windswept Palmer Course.

Webb rallies for ANZ title

GOLD COAST, Australia — Karrie Webb overcame a four-stroke deficit in three holes on the way to a 5-under-par 67 on Sunday and won the ANZ Ladies Masters for the fifth time.

Webb beat Ai Miyazato by one stroke after starting the day at Royal Pines four behind the 19-year-old from Japan, who led the joint Australian and European Ladies Tour event after each of the first three rounds.

Webb birdied the second hole, chipped in for eagle on the par-5 third from about 60 feet and then birdied the fourth to pull into a tie for the lead.

"It's a great start to the year

and will give me some confidence, hopefully to take back to the States with me," Webb said.

The Australian finished at 16-under 272. Miyazato closed with an even-par 72.

Outback cut to 36 holes

LYTT, N.Z. — Morris Hatalsky finished an opening-round 68 and followed with a 67 Saturday afternoon for a 7-under-par 135 and a two-stroke lead in the short-course Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am.

Hatalsky was one of just 22 players to complete the second round of the event, which was cut to 36 holes. The third round of the tournament is scheduled to be played Sunday, although heavy rain is forecast and the conclusion could be pushed back to Monday.

SPORTS



WR Muhammad gets
six-year deal with Bears,
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Blocking a rally



New Jersey's Vince Carter (15) pokes the ball from the hands of the Cleveland Cavaliers' Robert Traylor during the first quarter on Sunday in East Rutherford, N.J. The Nets won 104-98. See story on Page 29.

**Toms delivers
dominant
performance
to win
Match Play
Championship**

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**Marion tips
game in Suns'
favor, leaving
Mavericks
disputing call**

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**Mark Martin adds
to record
Busch victories**

Page 31



Webber falls short in debut

**Former King
misses layup
as 76ers lose**

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The strange confluence of Chris Webber's past and present came down to the play that "never works."

It would have worked this time if Webber had converted a layup.

Webber came up short on a last-second layup after grabbing an offensive rebound off an intentionally missed free throw, spoiling his debut for the Philadelphia 76ers on Saturday night in a 101-99 loss to the Sacramento Kings.

"For some reason, that play never works," Webber said of the intentional miss. "I just knew it was going to work this time. I tried to get it out of my left hand and throw it up, thinking time, but there was more time than I thought, and after I missed, it was a letdown."

Webber had 16 points, 11 rebounds and three steals in his first game with his new team. Strangely, it came against the franchise that traded him less than 72 hours earlier.

Webber didn't have the ball in his hands as much as he's accustomed to, but Allen Iverson took care of distributing it by handing out a season-high 14 assists to go with his 27 points.

Mike Bibby scored 19 points to lead six players in double figures for the Kings.

Webber was shocked when he first learned he had been traded, an emotion that didn't quite compare to the overwhelming weirdness as he debuted for his new team against his old one.

"Real weird seeing No. 4 starting for the other team, but a lot of fun," Sacramento's Brad Miller said.



Former Sacramento Kings forward Chris Webber (4) and new Philadelphia 76ers' teammate Allen Iverson (3) talk during a stoppage on Saturday.

Webber, wearing a red and black headband and a white "Sixers" jersey, exchanged hugs with all five starters from his former team after receiving a thunderous ovation during introductions from the 76ers' first sellout crowd of the season.

Scalper traffic was heavy outside the arena, and the arena was full for the first time in 26 home games. More than 11,500 advance tickets have been sold since the 76ers pulled off the trade for Webber on Wednesday night.

The relatively low price the Sixers paid, giving up forwards Corliss Williamson, Kenny Thomas and Brian Skinner while keeping intact their young core of Samuel Dalembert, Kyle Korver, Andre Iguodala and Willie Green, helped contribute to a palpable air of excitement.

Webber knocked down his first two shots, both jumpers, and played to the crowd after Sacramento was forced to call an early timeout.

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